Belarusian Chronicle

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Editor : G. PICARDA. Published quarterly by the *Anglo-Belarusian Society*, the *Chronicle* includes occasional papers in Belarusian Studies. Views expressed by individual contributors are not necessarily shared by the *Editor* or by the Society.

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Towards a new Millennium



A wrought iron gateway. Michalyšski (17th c.)

NEWS

Recent Events

(Summer & autumn 1999)

1st July

A LECTURE on "The Rehabilitation of Radioactive contaminated areas" (with illustrations) was given to the Anglo-Belarusian Society by Dr Alan Flowers at the Belarusian Cultural and Social Centre. Some 25 members and visitors were present. After the meeting an informal buffet was provided by Joan Dziejko and helpers.

A MEETING of the organisation "Aid to the Children of Belaruś" was held at Cwmbryn, Gwent attended by official representatives of Belaruś. Funds were raised for the benefit of convalescent children in particular by sales of CDs of Belarusian music.

An official Reception was held at Leighton House, London W. Among the guests present were the Lord Mayor of Nottingham and representatives of academic and diplomatic circles in London.

3rd July

The ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the Association of Belarusians in Great Britain was held at the Belarusian Social and Cultural Centre, 39 Holden Avenue, London N12. There were present some 25 members and guests. After hearing the usual reports, the Meeting proceeded to the election of a new Council composed of Mrs

H. Michaluk (*Chairman*), Mr. S. Dziejka (*Deputy Chairman*), Dr. I. Gurlo (*Treasurer*), Mr. I. Labacevič (*Secretary*). It was resolved that the Association's Manchester premises at 74 Bellot Street, now largely unoccupied and in bad repair, be sold. After the Meeting refreshments were served, organised by Joan Dziejko and helpers.

17th-22nd July

CONCERT TOUR of the Minsk Model Youth *Tonika* choir as guests of Nottingham Bluecoats School choir in addition to their programme of classical choral works, performed "Spadčyna" and "Moj Rodny Kut" (comp. I. Lučanok) in English from scores published in the *Chronicle*

21st-25th July

A Municipal delegation headed by the Mayor of Minsk, Hon. V. Jarmošyn, visited the United Kingdom at the invitation of the City of Nottingham. In the course of their programme the guests were able to view the site of the Millenium Dome in Greenwich, prior to visiting Nottingham to participate in a discussion on commercial exchanges between the two cities.

29th August

In the absence of Fr. A. Sidarovič the monthly Orthodox Holy Liturgy at St Euphrosyne Parish (Holy Innocents), Paddenswick Road W12 was conducted by Archimandrite Cyril Jenner, who has for many years ministered to the parish.

5th-15th September

A BRITISH DOCTORS' VISIT to Minsk. The visiting specialists provided free consultations and operations at a number of childrens' clinics in the Minsk district, as well as elaborating plans for future cooperation with local surgeons. This "Usmeška" project (which includes the "Sakavik" group) has extended its activities to link up with the *Belarusian Orphanage project* centred in South Wales. Dr Maxwell Gregory, Honorary Secretary of the Rotary Club in Maken, organised a collection which has raised 22.000US$ towards the purchase of a minibus, presented on *9th September* to the children of Minsk Childrens' Home No. 6. On *13th September* a reception organised by the "Sakavik" foundation, held at vul. Zacharava to greet the "Belaruś - Wales" delegates, was attended by H.E. Ian Kelly, British Ambassador to Minsk and his deputy Mark Pettick.

15th-19th September

Within the framework of existing "Know-how" EXCHANGES between the two countries, a group of specialists from Belaruś visited London to familiarise themselves with the market for quality paper. Also in the programme of the British Regional Academic Partnership, five projects have already been set up, financed by the "Know-how" Fund of the British Department for International Development. A sum of £3.6 million has been set aside to implement the Partnership programme for the period 1997-2001.

26th September - 3rd October

Tour of THE BELARUSIAN REPUBLICAN COLLEGE OF MUSIC BOY'S CHOIR - "KAPELLA CHLOPČYKAŬ" (*Director*: Ŭł. Hlusakoŭ) (*Contact*: Ben Gunner: 0468 217507), who gave a number of short recitals and a series of concerts in the home counties and East Anglia, in particular at St. Paul's Cathedral and the City of London School, London (*29th September* at 1130h and 1400h.). Other concerts took place at St. Davids Church, Moreton in the Marsh, Gloucestershire (*30th September* in the presence of the diplomatic representative of Belaruś), and Ashford Hill Parish Church, (*1st October*: introduced by the Chairman of the Anglo-Belarusian Society), as well as at Bradfield College (Norfolk), Greshams School, Taverham Hall and North Walsham (Enquiries as above or *01628 776795*)

29th September

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the Anglo-Belarusian Society was held at the Belarusian Cultural and Social Centre, 39 Holden Avenue, London N12 8HS at 1500 pm. After the approval by members of the Chairman's and Secretary/Treasurer's reports, a new Council was elected as follows: Rowan Carstairs (Chairman), Mgr. A. Nadson and G. Picarda (Vice-Chairmen), P. Šaŭcoŭ (Secretary), Joan Dziejko (Treasurer), and Dr. Flowers, S. Dziejko, H. Michaluk, V. Martynčyk, Mrs. Sienko (Members). Copies of the retiring and new Chairman's addresses appear below, and after a general discussion on future activities the customary hospitality was offered to members and visitors, organised by Joan Dziejko and helpers.

5th October

Two-week VISIT of a group of eight Belarusian school-children from Minsk to acquire a familiarity with spoken English. The group were guests of families in the Farnborough area of Hampshire.

6th - 11th October

At the World Championships of Judo held in Birmingham (England), a sportsman from Belaruś N. Bahiraŭ was awarded a bronze medal.

15th October

A concert and RECEPTION was held at 5 Kensington Palace Gardens, London to mark the 75th Anniversary of the SCRSS. The Society has in the past entertained the poet Maxim Tank and the composer Anatol Bohatyroŭ during their visits to the United Kingdom; its extensive Library has an interesting section devoted to Belarusian music. Among official guests at the celebration were diplomatic representatives of Ukraine, the Baltic States and the Republic of Belaruś.

16th October

A CONFERENCE of some 26 Irish charitable organisations providing aid for Belaruś was held in Dublin (Eire). Among Belarusians attending this conference, organised by the "Chernobyl Children Appeal", were V. Kučynski of the Belaruś Department for Humanitarian Aid and the accredited Ambassador for Ireland, H.E. Ŭł. Sćasny.

22nd October

Among the seven plays from Central and Eastern Europe presented by "Aurora Metro publications" at the Polish Cultural and Social Centre, 238-246 King Street, London W6, were two REHEARSAL READINGS from the Anthology "Eastern promise" - "The umbilical cord" (Poland) by Krystyna Kofta, and "The Chosen Ones" (Belaruś) by Elena Papova. The Polish contribution was predictably psychotic, centring on a bed-ridden mother's obsession with oranges, and nursing a doll given to her by her son, representing himself as a four year old baby. Polish quirks rub shoulders with Tamburlaine's tomb, and a divorced father returning from the camps on a bicycle with cracked spectacles and a back covered with sores. Echoes of St-Exupéry intermingle with Chopin as the play dissolves into characteristic craziness, death and destruction ("Death is a moment turned into a star"), - including that of the creepy doll.

In the Belarusian contribution, seven actors in an untidy urban flat, cluttered with shoes, drink coffee and watch the birds, whilst a senile, bemedalled veteran complains: "Where is the past? Where are the railway carriages with mirrors... the parades?". World-weary, Chekhovian mother-figures ramble on aimlessly: "I love the garden in August: I'm an ant out there in the garden... the whole divine plan is breathtaking"; or less esoterically perhaps : "I don't like the colour of his socks"; or: "Dad's there feeding the pigeons, and his firm is going bust". By and large, the reading was an amusing post-Soviet romp, but stylistically perhaps contemporary Belarusian theatre has need of another umbilical cord to be snipped.

12th November

A COLLOQUY on ANGLO-BELARUSIAN CULTURAL RELATIONS was held in Minsk at 28 vul. Zacharava, organised jointly by the Belarusian Association for Friendship and Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries, the International Association of Belarusicists and the "Sakavik" Foundation. Papers were read on : "Belaruś-British Cultural Relations" (Dr A. Maldzis); "The History of Belarusian Literature from its origins to the present day" (Prof. A. McMillin); "Anglo-Belarusian relations in the field of musical culture" (V. Skarabahataŭ) ; and "Relations between the National Skaryna Centre, the Jakub Kołas Museum and the London F. Skaryna Library" (M. Mickievič). There were readings of J. Kołas' poetry in English by students of the Pedagogical University, a contribution from the Minsk Theatre Group "Dze-Ja", and an exhibition of English publications relating to Belaruś, as well as of printed works by Kołas in English translation.

13th November

Some 150 British representatives of Charitable organisations participated in a CONFERENCE in Leeds on the theme "Project: Children of Charnobyl". Delegates and diplomatic representatives from Belaruś were in attendance.

3rd December

"EAST MEETS WEST" SPECTACULAR: HM Grenadier Guards and the Central Band of the Belarusian Army with massed Choirs at Westminster Central Hall gave another succesful concert - the fourth in two years, thanks to the initiative of E. Rogerson CBE. Among distinguished visitors was H.E. Jessica Pearse, former British Ambassador to Minsk. Small matter that the repertoire was perforce of an international character (Handel's *Halleluja chorus* and Verdi *Chorus of the Hebrew slaves*). Cooperation of the Belarusian band with leading NATO orchestral ensembles, and the resulting professional and human contacts

between leading Military Masters of Music such as Col. Bersan and his United Kingdon counterparts will inevitably promote an interest in Belarusian favourites other than *Lavonicha* - an object which the youthful, tap-dancing Lt. Col. Feodaraŭ appears to have very much in mind.

27th November

A COMMEMORATION OF THE SLUCAK UPRISING organised by the Association of Belarusians in Great Britain was held at the Belarusian Cultural Centre. The meeting was opened by the Chairman of the Association, Mrs Helen Michaluk. Papers were read by Ihar Ivanoŭ and Paval Šaŭcoŭ.

10th December

A *Human Rights Day* commemoration was held jointly by the Anglo-Belarusian Society and *MANIFOLD*-Magazine of New Poetry. This consisted a special service of intercession in the Belarusian Catholic Chapel of Sts Peter and Paul, for victims of human rights' abuses, followed by a poetry reading on human rights' themes. The latter included translations from leading Belarusian poets (including Francishak Bahuševich, Janka Kupala, Jakub Kolas, Aleś Harun, Maksim Bahdanovich, Ulazimier Duboŭka, Aleksandar Viarcinski, and Volha Ipatava), and works by '*MANIFOLD*' poets. Rowan Carstairs, the new Chairman of the Anglo-Belarusian Society presided; the programme was introduced by Vera Rich, and the readers were Elizabeth Kay, Morgan Melhuish, Bob Newman, and Hilary Sheers.

11th December

A highly successful CONCERT by the popular Minsk Rock group "Lapis Trubieckoj" was given at the trendy new "Aquarium Club" in London. Following their enthusiastic reception, the group was invited to return to the United Kingdom for a further programme of concerts.

16th December

A CONFERENCE held in London discussed possibilites of cooperation between supporters of "World Wild Animals" organisation and the Republic of Belaruś, to ensure the protection of the wild auroch bison of the forest of Biełavieža. The discussions followed an earlier colloquy with the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (cf. *Chron*. No. 8:2)

18th December

CEREMONY OF CAROLS The Royal Free Singers (*Director*: Ben Gunner) at Christchurch United Reformed Church, Windsor for the second successive Christmas Concert included in their repertoire two Belarusian carols in English *Boh ziaviŭsia* and *Nova radaść stala*, both of which were warmly applauded. In April the choir is expected to give a series of concerts in Minsk and later in St-Petersburg, at which selections of English and Belarusian vocal works will be performed (*Enquiries*: "Musica Europa" *Tel: 1628 776795*).

19th December

During a Solemn Liturgy at the Greek Orthodox Cathedral in Manchester, His Eminence Metropolitan Gregorios formally elevated Revd. Alexander Sidariovič, Rector of the Belarusian Ecumenical Orthodox Church in Great Britain, to the dignity of Proto-presbyter (*Arch-priest*)

24th-25th December

CHRISTMAS VIGIL and FESTIVAL services were celebrated at the SS. Peter and Paul, North Finchley by V. Revd. A. Nadson, with the participation of Revd. C. Maskalik. The choir was led by Ihar Labacievič and Julia Baudziej, and the ensuing mid-night supper and festivities were attended by the students of S. Cyril's House with a number of visitors. A Special CHRISTMAS MESSAGE by Fr. Nadson, the Apostolic Visitor of Belarusians abroad, was published in the Minsk newspaper "Naša Niva", No.36(157) p.1.

7th January

The customary ORTHODOX CHRISTMAS service was duly celebrated at the Church of St Euphrosynia (Holy Innocents), Paddenswick road, London W6 with a Holy Liturgy conducted by V. Revd. Alexander Sidarovič assisted by F. Zinhiel and Anton Burak as acolytes, with M. Zaloha as reader. Choral singing was led by M. Halubinka, and included the singing of traditional kaliadky - "Nieba i ziemlia" and "Nova radasć stala". A buffet was provided in the adjoining church hall by M. Halubinka, M. Maroz and helpers.

10th January

The ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the Britain-Belaruś Society was held at 240 King Street, London W6 at which the present Committee (*Chairman*: Chris Moore, *Secretary/Treasurer*: Natalla Moore) was re-elected for a further term of office. During the coming year the Society hopes to promote exchanges in the fields of

sport and gymnastics. The Meeting was followed by the traditional OLD NEW YEAR PARTY at which Alex Ŭlassenkoŭ played selections of classical guitar music. An excellent cold buffet was served and a small band provided dance-music.

27th January - 9th February

SCHOOL EXCHANGE VISIT by a group of eight children from schools in Minsk to Cardiff (Wales) to study English. The children were from Belarusian-speaking families, and their stay organised by Marcia Doyle ended with three days spent visiting London, with hospitality provided at St. Cyril's House, 41 Holden Road, North Finchley N.12.

(G.P.)

Forthcoming events and Fixtures

11th-12th February

A SPECIAL SEMINAR ON BELARUŚ entitled "The forgotten heart of Europe" will take place at the University of Bath. 'The aim of the seminar is to initiate wide discussion about what is happening in Belaruś. Various aspects of Belaruś' historical, economic, social and political discourse will be covered at the seminar in a contemporary and comparative perspective. The core focus of the discussion will be the definition of the type of democracy, if any, in Belaruś, and further perspectives in regard to democratisation. *Guest speakers* : David Marples (Professor of History, University of Alberta) will speak on Belaruś in historical context; and Professor David Rotman (Belarusian State University, Minsk) will describe the contemporary state of Belaruś. The following papers are expected to be presented at the seminar: "Explaining the post-Communist Authoritarianism in Belaruś", "The difficulties of Elite formation in Belaruś after 1991", "Belaruś International aspect: A country without a European Policy or Europe without a country ?", "Towards an explanation of Party system development in Belaruś", "How important is path dependence: the long run consequences of being a reluctant reformer", Belaruś and Russia: Monetary Union as a policy option?" "Belaruś economic development 1991-1999", "Banking and investing in Belaruś: Muddling through towards the Brighter Future?", "Polonisation and Russification: the consequences of a divided national identity", "Belaruś' electorate in a comparative perspective", "Mass media and opposition in Belaruś". Further information about the seminar will be available on the Bath University/ERI website: http:/ www.bath.ac.uk/departments/SocPol/centres/ eurinst.html.'

13th February

At 16.00h an Ordinary meeting of the Anglo-Belarusian Society will be held at the Belarusian Cultural and Social Centre, 39 Holden Road, London N12 8HS during which there will be a SCREENING OF A FILM: "FEAR", (with English subtitles) dealing with the issue of Human Rights in present-day Belaruś. Refreshments will be served after the show.

16th - 24th March

Minsk Programme DAYS OF IRELAND of the Belarusian-Irish Society (Chairman: M. Mickievič). The events will include visits to several Belarusian orphanages, official meetings, a cultural programme, a "round table" discussion and a St-Patrick's day parade. Participation fees: Accommodation: US$ 70 (7 days Hotel bed and Breakfast); Organisation and participation fee US$ 45. Bookings and summary papers before 5th March please. *Fax: (0172) 645124.*

25th March

The Anglo-Belarusian Society will, together with the Association of Belarusians in Great Britain (ZBVB), commemorate BEŁARUŚ INDEPENDENCE DAY at the Social and Cultural Centre, 39 Holden Road, North Finchley (*Underground* : Woodside Park) which will be preceded by a programme of lectures, commencing at 14.00h. Refreshments will be served as usual.

(G.P.)

(Note: Owing to the late publication of the present double number of the *Chronicle* it has not been possible to give advance notice of Catholic and Orthodox religious services. In the Spring issue for 2000 previous practice will be resumed.)

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1998-1999

"My address on the occasion of an Annual General Meeting of the Society I would have wished to keep brief, but we have had a busy year. I am not getting any younger; I was heavily engaged this summer during a visit to Belaruś from which I returned exhausted, and I am still trying to put together material for the Autumn issue of the Belarusian Chronicle. In addition I am having to complete the text of a talk I gave in Viciebsk on Francis Skaryna, Marc Chagall and Judaeo-Christian *symbolica*, as well as sorting out music for various British and Belarusian choirs.

"I think the Society can congratulate itself on a varied and successful programme during the past year. Council was able, as usual, to put on four events which included a "Christmas Recital of seasonal readings and carols" with the assistance of Vera Rich and the Belarusian students of St. Cyril's House on 11th December 1998, a screening of the film "An ordinary President" directed by Jury Chaścievacki on 25th February 1999, a lecture on "The Bi-centenary of Adam Mickievič and Belaruś" by Jim Dingley on 24th April last, and a talk on "Rehabilitation of Radio-active contaminated areas" by Dr. Alan Flowers on 1st July; attendance varied between 15 and 32, and excellent refreshments were served by our indefatigable ladies with their helpers. It was particularly pleasant to see a number of children at the Christmas party, and the movement away from a plurality of academic themes towards a wider range of subjects was welcomed by members and visitors alike.

"The Society successfully produced four further numbers of the *Chronicle* (Nos. 5-8) with the Editor's task being lightened by the assistance of Tania Carstairs in the distribution, and helpful contributions of material from Ihar Labacievič, Vera Rich and Paval Šaŭcoŭ. Each number increased in size over the previous edition, and the Summer Number ran to 24 pages. If this can be kept up, the Chronicle will each year practically equal in size the earlier numbers of the Journal of Belarusian Studies, which it now *de facto* incorporates. A substantial paper on early Belarusian-Irish relations has been received from Minsk, and it is hoped we shall be able to publish some of Vera Rich's original verse on Anglo-Belarusian themes. Other contributions of a scientific or popular character will also be gratefully received and included perhaps in a double number for the end of the year.

"In gathering material for the *Chronicle* I have had to keep in close touch not only with the Association of Belarusians in Great Britain, the Belarusian Library and other Finchley establishments, but also with the parish of St. Euphrosyne in 'Brackenbury village', Hammersmith, with Belarusians in Bradford and Manchester, as well as other private or official bodies dealing with cultural exchanges. One such organisation, *Musica Europa* this year organised a two weeks tour of Southern England by the Boys choir of the Belarusian Music Academy in Minsk (*dir.* V. Hlusakoŭ), whose programme consisted as to more than one half of works by Belarusian composers. Ben Gunner (whose choirs and orchestras perform on *Radio Classic FN*) asked me to introduce Belaruś and its music to audiences in Hemel Hempstead and Morton-in-Marsh, as a result of which the *Pro Musica* (*dir.* M. Smedley) choir from Oxford as well as a choir from Bourton-on-the-Water asked for and were sent Belarusian Carols for their forthcoming Christmas concerts. In July the *Tonika* choir from Minsk and the Nottingham Bluecoats School choir performed "Spadčyna" and "Moj Rodny Kut" (comp. I. Lucanok) in English from scores published in the *Chronicle*

"During my visit to Belaruś this summer I addressed, as Chairman of the Society and as Skaryna Library music librarian, the 9th International colloquy on Marc Chagall in Viciebsk. I was again invited to adjudicate at the Mahutny Boža Music festival in Mahiloŭ, where your acting Chairman's setting of Svete Tixij (S'viatlo lahodnaje) to Belarusian folk melodies was sung,

with gratifying applause for the Minsk Orthodox Church choir of Our Lady's Nativity. In Minsk I was invited by Victor Skorabahataŭ to the Premiere of Prince Anton Radzivil's *Faust* (in Belarusian) at the Grand Opera House and Ballet. Later Metropolitan Philaret's Secretary kindly arranged for me to spend three days at Žyrovicy monastery and address the choristers on Belarusian Church music. A young Orthodox monk, assigned to me as my escort, kindly drove me round Slonim to show me the local Catholic churches, where he seemed to be on the most affectionate terms with the Roman clergy, all of them Belarusian speaking.

"Your Chairman has, over the past year, had to conduct extensive correspondance with the municipalities of Aberdeen, Nottingham, Mendip, answer numerous enquiries about the Society and Belarusian history and music generally. On occasion I have had to show people round the Library music section or pass on cassettes of music, and I ask you to dispense me from reporting on this in detail.

"We have at last found a willing friend in Rowan Carstairs to take over the functions of Chairman of the Society. He resides near Guildford, conveniently near a University having strong connections with Belaruś, and he is married to a Belarusian lady, our friend Tania from Hrodnia, who has just presented him with an Anglo-Belarusian daughter. I am very grateful to him for helping me to shed a substantial part of my burden.

"I feel I should thank our Secretary and Treasurer Joan Dziejko for her valiant endeavours in coping with drafting and circulating notices as well as keeping the books. She will also, I know be grateful to pass on the very taxing secretarial work when we can find a suitable candidate. My thanks are also due to the Trustees of the Skaryna Library, to my fellow Vice-Chairman Fr. Alexander and the Belarusian Catholic Mission for administrative assistance as well as the use of the premises here in Finchley, and to all the members of Council for their support, and yes, on occasion, their disagreement. A healthy Council should never made up of coteries of yes-men.

"My hopes for the future are an expansion of membership, particularly English members and descendants of old emigrés born and settled here. Inability or shyness to speak Belarusian should be no bar to their being encouraged to join, and I venture to say that the same should apply to young members of the new emigration, who might learn better ways with us if we are nice to them."

"I wish our new Chairman every success in what I know will be a difficult but rewarding task."

Guy PICARDA, ***Acting Chairman***

INAUGURAL ADDRESS OF THE CHAIRMAN-ELECT

"As I take up the Chairmanship of the Anglo-Belarusian Society I am very well aware of our Society's proud history and I am indeed greatly honoured to have been asked to serve the Society. We will work together to further the Society's aims of championing the freedom, culture, language, history and human rights of Belarusians as well as providing a forum for the development of Anglo-Belarusian relations.

"When the Society was founded in 1954 Belaruś was firmly behind the 'Iron Curtain' and those Belarusians living in the United Kingdom were largely exiles from Soviet occupation; the Anglo-Belarusian Society provided a focus for the endeavours of Belarusians and their British friends in seeking to preserve for the future the rich heritage of Belarusian culture.

"Today we live in different times; Belarusians and Britons are able to travel between their two countries, and information is more freely available. The sad fact however is that after the brief flickering expectations of freedom in the early 1990s, the present regime in Belaruś is now set on a course of Russification determined to obliterate Belarusian language, culture and national sovereignty, as well as the human rights of Belarusian citizens. Our Society has a key role to play in providing information and support for beleaguered Belaruś, and of maintaining a repository of Belarusian culture in Britain.

"Your Council will this year seek to set up a Parliamentary and press lobby to ensure that not only are people aware of deteriorating humanitarian, cultural and political conditions in Belaruś, but that voices are raised, whenever possible, in support of a sovereign, free amd culturally integral Belaruś. We will start modestly, under no illusion that our task will be in any sense an easy one.

"The Society looks forward to the continued provision of its traditional programme of events, both social and academic, and indeed we hope to extend our activities and ensure that we attract more Belarusians and Britiish friends to our activities. We are particularly concerned to attract Belarusians living in the UK and British friends working in charity and academic ventures concerned with Belaruś.

We have also embarked on the setting up of a comprehensive data-base concerning details of everyone we know of interested in, or connected with Belarusian affairs in this country. The database will be made available to any organisation which shares the same values and aims of our Society. We hope, through the use of the database, to reach a much broader spectrum of people, and hence to be able to disseminate information more widely.

The *Belarusian Chronicle* will now be the official publication of the Society and the main vehicle of the Society's communications. The *Chronicle* is a quality publication which the Society sees as a central part of its future. My thanks go to Guy Picarda for his sterling work in producing the *Chronicle* quarterly. His is a time-consuming task which he carries out so very well, it is difficult to imagine the Chronicle without him. With the new database we hope to send a complimentary copy, together with future details of our Society to over 300 groups and individuals in the UK and overseas this spring.

I look forward to the development and growth of our Society, and to meeting with you in the New Year

Rowan CARSTAIRS
(***Chairman***)

Profile



AUBERON HERBERT
(1922 -1974)

It is just over twenty five years since the death of one of the best-loved founding fathers of the Anglo-Belarusian Society. None stands out in a more dignified yet colourful light than its first vice-Chairman, and later Chairman, Auberon Mark Henry Yvo Molyneux Herbert.

Born the grandson of a Welsh peer, the fourth Earl of Carnarvon, discoverer of the tomb of Tutankhamun, and son of a sometime candidate for the crown of Albania, this striking personality died a parishoner of the Belarusian Catholic mission. He was buried in a Somerset churchyard by his friend Bishop Sipovič, the Apostolic Visitor for Belarusians, with the Anglo-Belarusian Society's Secretary intoning his last *Večnaja pamiać*.

Among those who contributed to a collective memorial volume to commemorate his passing were a remarkable group of his friends, who included Hon. John Jolliffe, Isaiah Berlin, Malcolm Muggeridge, Lord Salisbury, Patrick Leigh Fermor, Bishop Sipovič and many others. Their tributes read like an enchantment.

The qualities of Auberon remain legendary: his uprightness, his steadfastness in the support he gave to those whose causes he espoused, his great generosity, charm and irrepressible sense of humour were known to the friends who chronicled the colourful life of a man who "walked with kings, but kept the common touch". His particular warmth for the Belarusians was animated no doubt by his reverence for Bishop Sipovič, with whom together he founded the Anglo-Belarusian Society. His regard for them transcended ČeslaŭJešman's facile jibe about *l'amour de la*

THE BELARUSIAN-IRISH SOCIETY

13'A Surganov Street, Minsk Belarus Fax (0172) 645124
http://home.clara.co.uk/skaryna/bes/

19th January, 2000

Dear Sirs,

"Days of Ireland in Belarus"

I am writing on behalf of the Belarusian-Irish Society and would like to draw your attention to one of the forthcoming events which I believe may be of a particular interest to you. I enclose a copy of the prospectus which contains details of the event and the application procedure.

As part of our aim to encourage cultural and scientific exchanges between Belarus and Ireland, we run a successful programme "The Days of Ireland". This year programme will include visits to several Belarusian orphanages, official meetings, scientific conferences, a cultural programme, "round table" and St. Patrick's Day Parade.The programme is flexible, and participants will be free to attend those parts which correspond to their interests.

I sincerely hope that you will find this information valuable and the programme attractive. If you wish to take part in the programme, please complete the application form attached to the prospectus. If, however, you are unable to attend, I would be grateful if you could pass this information to anyone who you think might be interested.

As far as fees are concerned, participants will be charged:

- a residential fee of US$ 70 which will cover the cost of 7 nights' bed and breakfast hotel accommodation from Thursday, 16 March to Friday, 24 March, inclusive, in single or double bedrooms with private facilities; and

- an organisational fee of US$ 45 which will cover social programme, transfer costs as well as welcome and farewell packs (programme, speakers' notes, local information, etc.).

Please note that you can obtain Belarusian visas at the reduced cost of $US10 (normal cost of a visa is $US 40). Also you will be eligible to discount air fairs on the route Shannon - Minsk - Shannon served by a Belarusian airline Belavia. When planning your travel arrangements to and from Belarus, it would be advisable if you make return reservations as it may be difficult to make them after arrival.

Please feel free to contact me should you need any further information. Yours faithfully,

M. Mitskevich
The Vice-President of the
Belarusian-Irish Society

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boue. He sincerely enjoyed the company of these "real people", whether proposing the toast *Zyvie Belarus!* in the House of Lords or carousing with them in their North country clubs. He saw in them - and he meant it as a compliment - the most 'English' of the Slavs. Through him many leading British politicians and cultural figures came to hear of Belaruś, and the distinguished company of the Society's Patrons today is a memorial to his 'recruiting' skills. But he was not merely a gifted exponent of "champagne diplomacy" during the Society's early years; recognising the need for Belarusians to achieve cultural as well as political identity, he gave his wholehearted support to chairing a course of academic lectures. These have continued to be held for thirty-five years, long after his untimely death in 1974. Belarusian boys from St. Cyril's House school Finchley, now themselves fathers, are unlikely to forget those holidays at Pixton Park, following the Exmoor staghounds or hunting for wild mushrooms - or the tall, silent figure of Auberon seeking out, as in return, spiritual tranquility among the icons and candles of the Belarusian London chapel he had come to love.

JAPANESE SONG

(in Tanka form)

Fragile wondrously,
Scintillating, yellow-hued,
Tingéd with azure,
The lovely leaves of autumn
Covered the pathways with silk.

M. BAHDANOVIČ (1891-1917)
Tr. Vera Rich

AUTUMN SONG

Let us go, dearest, together,
In the forest so thick,
Silent, because it has now finished reigning;
Yellow and naked it grows with grass waning -
The bushes grow black.

Let us go, love, neath the oak-tree
We shall sit down, my dear,
There we shall watch the leaves tumbling and falling,
We shall hear their sad rustle, the soft murmured calling
Of the stream ringing clear.

We'll be alone in the world there,
Alone there we two,
Who come at the time of its agonised passing,
To bid the poor forest a sad farewell, lasting
Till the spring comes anew.

Ales HARUŃ (1887-1920)
Tr. Vera Rich

A WINTER TALE

A snowy night hangs, a savage night hangs,
A grey pelt above forests' wild tresses
In white plumage of snow, in a white silk of snow,
Valleys, hills under rich snowy dresses.

In the wild of the woods, the age-slumbering woods,
Dwell a people, ill-natured, unspeaking.
In a palace of glass, on a bed all of glass
Lies a maiden with sun-bright hair sleeping.

Go you, call her by name; go you wake her again -
Then tall fir-trees will utter harsh creaking.
The the tempest will moan, then the tempest will groan,
White-eyed winter complain with loud speaking.

Winter then in alarm, winter then, fearing harm,
In a frenzy of frost will spin swirling;
Like a horse without rein, like a grey-and-white flame,
The blind snowstorm will rush - rearing, whirling.

And the maid will sigh deep, stir in heavy dreamed sleep,
With her fingers brush brows clear of hoar-frost,
She will gaze all around, unrestrained, all around -
Sad the grey wolves will howl in the forest.

Go you, rouse her again, - and the spring comes again,
Over ploughland larks revel unstinting,
On the river ice cracks, and away the floes break,
And the playful floods wash out the winter.

Zmitrok BIADUŁA (1886-1941)
Tr. Vera Rich

ГАЙ

Пачуў ты сэрцам - і ня ў потай! -
Што між Варшавай і Масквой -
Ня толькі лапці ды балота...
Тут Беларускіх сьпеваў строй.

Тысячу год гучыць няўпынна,
Тут - даўні Богалюбны край -
Твой прадзед ці ня чуў: "Бывай!" -
Ад Беларускае дзяўчыны?

А ты, - здалёку - адгукнууся,
І сэрца вернае аддаў
Той, каго продак твой гукаў -
Блакітнавокай Беларусі.

Алег БЕМБЕЛЬ (Зьніч), 1998
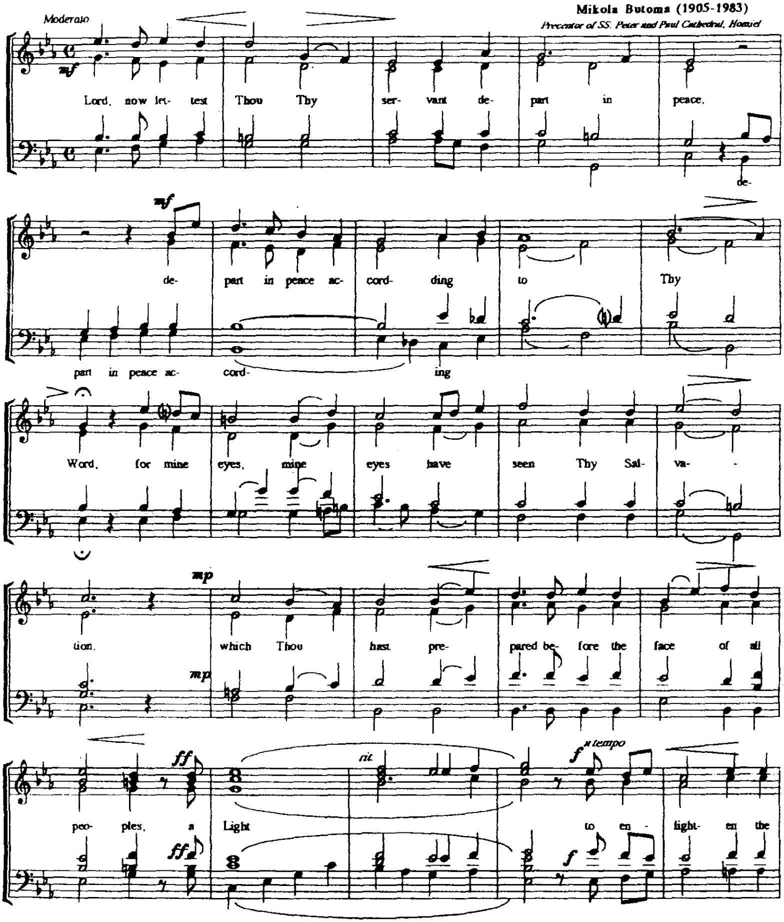
"Гай Пікарда - француз, які жыве ў Ангельшчыне і любіць Беларусь. Прадзед Гая - лейтэнант арміі Банапарта, быў у Менску ды іншых тутэйшых мясьцінах. Будучы студэнтам у Парыжы, Гай сьпяваў у Рускім Праваслаўным хоры Аляксандра Неўскага. Цяпер - зьбірае даўнія беларускія царкоўныя сьпевы."
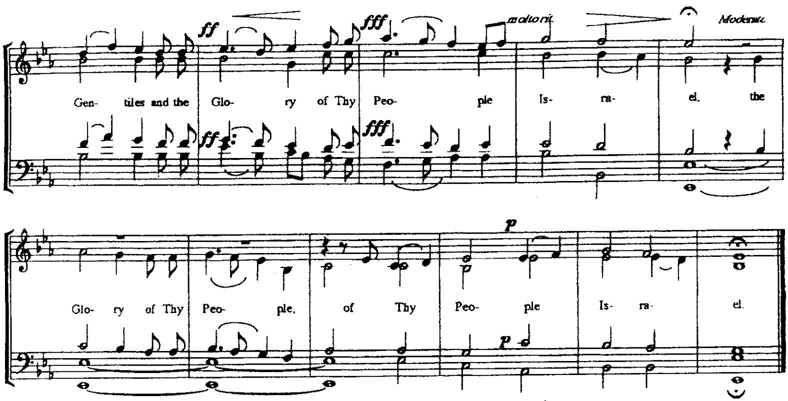
(А.Б.)

Nunc dimittis

Цяпер адпускаеш

Mikola Butoma (1905-1983)
Precentor of SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral, Homiel



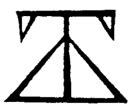


<u>**Heraldry**</u>

CORPORATE HERALDRY

15. Belarusian Heraldry Society

(Founded in 1995 as a study circle with ten members. Convenor: Guy Picarda. Affiliated to the Heraldry Society of London.) Genealogical and Heraldic research. *Address*: 39 Holden Road, London N12 8HS. *Arms*: Gules, a Franciscan Cross and triad or. *Publications*: Contributions to *Belarusian Chronicle*.



16. Aberdeen - Gomel (Homel) Trust

Address: Town House, Broad Street Aberdeen AB10 1AQ. *Chair*: Dr Lilian Murchison. *Logo*: A Scottish City gateway within a dome and patriarchal cross.

<u>**Correction**</u>

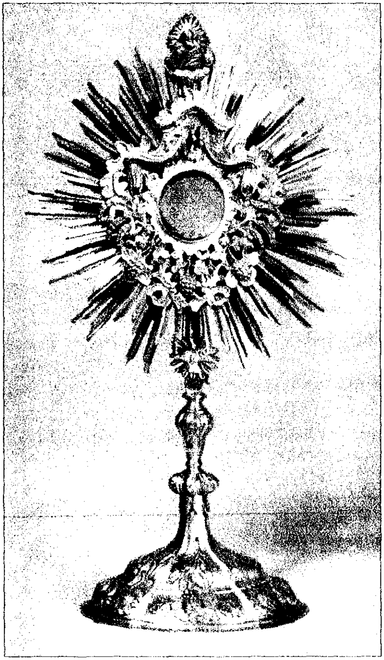
JURY VIESIALKOŬSKI ESQ

The *Chronicle* has been asked to correct an impression that may have been created in the last "Profile" (No. 8 ; 4-5) that Mr Jury Viesialkoŭski had in an article published in *Niva* (No. 20 Bełastok, 16th May 1999) in some way supported the dictatorial policies of the Serbian President Milosevich, which was incorrect. In fact he had stated that "It is a known fact that Milosevich is a dictator, but NATO without the approval of the United Nations had no right to initiate hostilities", a view taken by a number of American Senators and British members of Parliament. It has also been pointed out that the late Judge Hlinski was never a member of ChABR and had no connection either with its organ "Abednannie", or with the magazine "Holas Času", which only began to appear after his death. The *Editor* apologies for these unintentional inaccuracies.

GOLD AND SILVER PLATE IN BELARUS

(15th-18th century)

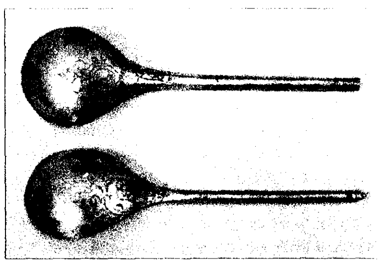
Whatever misfortunes may have overcome almost every field of the Belarusian cultural heritage, providence always appears to have saved one or two specimens, albeit preserved in some foreign museum, as an illustration of national art-forms. Such has been the case, as previous numbers of the *Chronicle* have endeavoured to show, with the brocade girdles of Slucak, the porcelain of Novy Svieržan, and the crystal of Urečče and Najliboki.

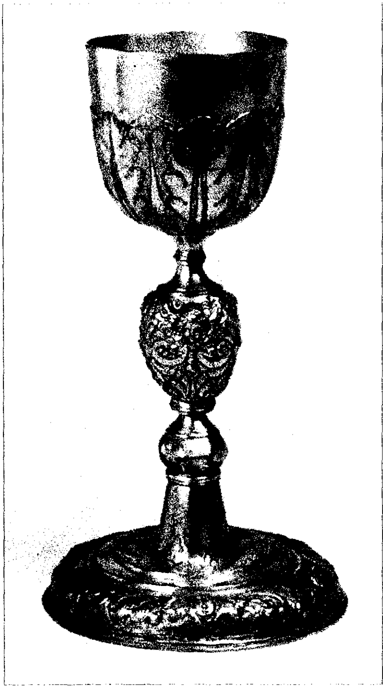


MONSTRANCE. 1783.
Catholic church of the Assumption of Mary. Budslau, Minsk region.

An outstanding early example of the jeweller's art in Belarus was the Silver-gilt cross of St. Euphrosynia of Polacak, created by the goldsmith Lazar Bohsa (1161), the closest treasure Belarus has to Crown Jewels. Even this masterpiece of chased metal enamel-ware, encrusted with gems, was plundered from Belaruś during the Nazi-Soviet conflict (1941-1945), with its present whereabouts still unknown. A copy has now been made by the contemporary artist M. Kuzmič, but sufficient artefacts of silver and gold survive - chalices, monstrances, plate, plaques, rings, pendants, spoons, an other regalia - to reassure collectors that, despite a lack of artefacts, there was no lack of skilled masters from the earliest times in the so-called "peasant" republic. Early Belarusian decorative metalwork consisted of amulets, rings, brooches and ornaments, both secular and religious, displaying strong Byzantine influences. Much quality work was put into the gold and silver coinage of the Grand Ducal mints. After achieving relatively high standards, notably in Polacak and Viciebsk during the Middle Ages, some 105 gold - and silversmiths flourished in Belarus during the 15th-16th centuries, 665 during the 17th century and 909 during the 18th. The principal centres of production were Minsk, Vilna, Slucak, Bieraście, Mahiloŭ, Pinsk, Polacak and Viciebsk. In

SPOON. XVII cent. The Brest Museum of Regional Studies.





CHALICE. 1666. The Belarusian State Museum of Arts.

Minsk there was a Guild of Metalworkers (1591) and a Guild of Jewellers (1592), among whose liverymen were a number of Calvinists. These craftsmen were centred in the Upper town in vul. Zbarovaja, round their Meeting house or *Zbor* (1583), later endowed by the Master Goldsmiths Kandrat and Michal Šyška. Many of the fine chalices, monstrances, communion silver, as well as domestic silverplate were produced in these centres prior to the Muscovite invasion of 1654. Many craftsmen such as Larion Afanasieŭ, Ivan Andrejeŭ, Fiodar Prakopieŭ, Ivan Jurieŭ and Haŭryla Jaŭdakimaŭ were deported to Moscow to decorate the palaces of the Kremlin. Belarusian gold and silverware followed largely the Gothic, renaissance, baroque and roccoco styles of Western Europe. Under the Grand Duchy Belarusian Jews were also admitted to the Guilds, and enjoyed the same privileges as Christians, producing ritual cups, *menoras* Torah crowns, *rimmonim* and ornate *yadim*. Much of this gold and jewelry were successively plundered by Russian, Swedish, French, German and finally Bolshevik armies, though sufficient examples remain to provide a relatively clear picture of Belarusian jewellers' art through the centuries.

After the 1917 Revolution there was little interest or opportunity for working with precious metals in Belaruś. A revival of the art began in the 1960s with a return to traditional skills, as well as experimentation with new forms and materials. Among leading artists of this new school are Ju. Lubimaŭ, Ju. Hudzinovič, H. Astašonak, Ju. Kalistrataŭ, V. Fiodaraŭ, A. Karnienka, R. Ivanoŭ, and B. Drodz. Pre-eminence must perhaps go to M. Kuzmič for his fine reproduction of the enamels, incrustations, and engraved decoration of the lost golden Cross of St. Euphrosyne of Polack (1999).

PAINTING



THE ARTISTS GOD-DAUGHTER Tania Paŭloŭna (Baines-Vialiki, London)

"...FILL IT TO THE BRIM"

(continued)

Distilleries of Viciebsk

Most of the larger cities and towns in Belarus have flourishing distilleries, - Klimavičy, Homiel, and Hrodna among others (*cf. Chronicle No. 8*). A number of historic and noted firms commenced production in Viciebsk, after the Uprising of 1863, and the *Chronicle* is indebted to our member, the Romany poet and sometime resident of Viciebsk Valdemar Kalinin, for providing the detail of the following report:

One of the early licenced distilleries in Viciebsk was founded in 1862 by Chaim Ratner, a merchant of the Second Guild of Master distillers, and continued production until 1903. The firm occupied brick-built premises belonging to Samuel Rozenfeld and employed 2 workmen producing 1.400 kegs, a keg of $2^{1/2}$ gallons then fetching 5r. on the Viciebsk market. The production was also distributed in Riga and Moscow.

A second distillery owned by another merchant of that Guild Judah Nieuchovič Kerlin, established in 1864, remained active until 1903. It was located in the Raznecki lane in the distiller's own brick building, and employed two workers, with a production of 1500 kegs of assorted *harelkas* and liqueurs *per annum*.

Another atelier (1859-1864), owned by the noted distillers Albert Wolfschmitt of Riga, was employing from 5 to 8 workers in 1864 in timber-frame premises on vul. Kanatnaja, the property of one Sapošnikaŭ. There were six employees with one horse producing liqueurs worth 6.000r., brandy worth 4.000r., rum 4.000r., balsam 3.000r. and *harelka* worth 33.600r. Some of the production was exported to Riga where Wolfschmitts (est. 1849) produced, in addition to the world-famous "Kummel" liqueur (*Kminoŭka*), quality vodkas and black "Riga balsam".

One Symon Krupinovic also founded a distillery in 1860, in the Zadzvinsk district of the city. It was a timber-frame construction in the Haradok Chaussee, owned by the distiller, which gave employment to four workmen. Its production of 2.000 kegs (1 keg = $2^{1/2}$ gallons) *per annum* was marketed in Moscow and Riga as well as locally.

"Records for the factory of a Swiss national, Jakub Sutter (est. 1864) are more complete. Located in vul. Smalenskaja, it produced a variety of harelkas and liqueurs as well as rum, a drink much favoured in Jewish communities from Viciebsk to Whitechapel, to a total of 1.700 kegs. The entire production was consumed locally, with liqueurs retailing at 10 rubles a keg, sweetened vodkas at 5r., dry spirits at 4r. and rum at 5r. Sutter's workshop occupied a wooden building of one Larin, a local merchant. In the mid-19th century it provided employment for a master-distiller and two workmen, producing 1700 kegs *per annum*."



VICIEBSK Z. Harbaviec (1926)

The last surviving 19th century Viciebsk distillery is still operative in Zadzvinsk suburb, (vul. Revalucyjnaja 45), a short distance from the erstwhile home of the painter Marc Chagall. Founded in 1898 it produces, in addition to standard 'State-monopoly' types of vodka, a unique line of Belarusian *harelka* and



Spirits and liqueurs of Viciebsk

liqueurs, which have achieved wide popularity. The distillery buildings are an impressive example of late 19th c. red brick industrial architecture, in which 300 employees produce more than 1,700,000 decalitres of spririts, which are largely exported to Turkey, Hungary, Sweden and the Baltic States, as well as serving a substantial local demand. Visits of the distillery can be arranged, which includes an interesting laboratory and museum. In addition to beverages such as *Viciebskaja, Forum, Lydia* and a liqueur *Mindalny*, (which your correspondent had no occasion to sample) the most popular varieties of Belarusian style *harelka* include *Miadzviedz*("Bear") - a 40% proof classic flavoured with coriander, a clean-tasting vodka *Slavianskaja* and *Zamkavaja* distilled from finest quality grain spirit, made smooth by the addition of a small quantity of sugar. The distillery's pride is an excellent *Balsam* tonic and restorative *Corny Rycar* ("Black Knight"), of particular smooth and elegant flavour, which mixes well with plain *harelka* or coffee, preferably the former. Only the brave drink it neat. Its quality derives from a skillful blending of medicinal herbs and no fewer than thirteen aromatic spices. *Corny Rycar* was awarded a Silver medal at the St-Petersburg International Exhibition (1997).

Law

"YESTERDAY IN COURT..."

An Extract from the reported cases of criminal and civil matters compiled in the Middle-Belarusian language, recorded in the Rolls of the High Courts and petty sessions of the Grand Duchy of Lithuania and Belaruś, and published by the Vilnia Archeological Commission (1864-1915) [*From the collection of the F. Skaryna Library, London.*]

No. 143. PLAINT OF *DISTRESS DAMAGE FEASANT* CONCERNING FIVE LOOSE HORSES IN MY LORD LAHOJSK'S MEADOWS: In the year 1582, of the month of June the 3rd day, in the courtroom of the Royal Castle there appeared before me Jan Vojny Epimach, Deputy Sheriff of Miensk, Counsel representing His Grace the most noble lord Fedor Jurievič Tyškievič of Lahojsk, Constable of Bierascie, namely Master Vasisiej Surin assisted by Mikalaj Labuński, who alledged and claimed that in this year 1582 in the month of June on the first day the agent of my lord, His Grace of Lahojsk, reported the presence on the meadows and pastureland of my said Lord of Lahojsk of five stray horses of an unknown owner - three grey, one with a white muzzle and one roan, and took and impounded the same, which no person recognising, and which horses nobody identifying either in Vajnie or the other villages, the said horses having occasioned no small damage and loss to my lord His Grace. Wherefore Counsel to His Grace of Lahojsk requested that the said horses be impounded, and that a record thereof be entered into the City Court Register. *Of which an Act.*

(G.P.)

NOTES ON CONTEMPORARY COMPANY LAW IN BELARUS

The Belarusian legal system is civil law and code based.

The relevant provisions governing companies are contained in the Belarusian Civil Code (Ch. "On Enterprises in the Republic of Belarus" (1990) as amended; in the Law on "Property in the Republic of Belarul", as amended; the Law on "Foreign Investments in the territory of the Republic of Biełaruś" (1993); The Law on "Securities and the Stock Exchange" (1992), as amended; the Law on "Joint Stock Companies, Limited liability companies and Extended liability Companies" (1992), as amended ; and the Law on "Privatisation of State Property in the Republic of Biełaruś" (1993) as amended.

The political and economic climate has not, however, been conducive to foreign investment. As a consequence Belarus finds itself as one of the smallest recipients of foreign investment in Eastern Europe. Privatisation has been sporadic, and over-dependence on the Russian economy renders Belarus susceptible to all the problems affecting the evolution of trade in the Russian Federation. Political developments and the worsening of relations between Belarus and the European Union have had a negative impact on the integration of Belarus into the world economy.

A number of incentives have been included in Belarusian legislation on foreign investments. Foreign businesses are exempt from profits tax for 3 years on profits deriving from the sale of their own products, provided that the minimum contribution made by the foreign investor is at least $20.000US, and equals more than 30% of the total sum of the Charter capital. With major projects, the exemption period may be extended for 5 years where a foreign investor's contribution to the Charter fund is imported from abroad. It is also exempt from tax duties and Value added Tax.

A branch office of a foreign company may be registered in Biełaruś for a term of up to three years. Such representative offices are established to facilitate the conduct of the business of the parent company, but they are not separate legal entities, and cannot lawfully engage in independent economic activities.

The Law of 1992 authorised the setting up in Belarus of Limited liability and joint stock corporations. These are legal entities established by two or more shareholders. Each shareholder is liable for for the debts and liabilities of the company only to the extent of its investment.

A joint stock corporation may be public (open) or private (closed). The dealing in shares of a private joint stock company may not be restricted under the terms of its charter. It is also permissible for a a single person to establish a company as a legal entity of which the promotor may not be liable for the company's debts. It is not possible to set up either a limited or an unlimited partnership in Biełaruś.

Prior to its formal establishment, a foreign corporation must obtain the prior consent of the local authorities, and must then be registered with the Ministry of Foreign Economic Affairsof Belarus.

The International Arbitration Court of the Belarusian Chamber of Commerce is the duly appointed Court of Arbitration to examine and determine disputes between Belarusian and foreign corporations.

PAVAL ŠAŬCOŬ (*London*).

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE LONDON

BELARUSIAN EVENING COURSE FOR BEGINNERS

The language Unit of the School of Slavonic and East European Studies has, as from Michaelmas term 1999, initiated a one-year course in elementary spoken and written Belarusian. The course is aimed at providing coverage of basic grammar and essential vocabulary, as well as an ability to communicate within a limited range of situations. The course will be taught in English and Belarusian,

AUTOGRAPH DEDICATIONS IN THE SKARYNA LIBRARY, LONDON

by Ju. ŁAŬRYK *(London)*

Among the rarities kept in the collections of the Belarusian Library are a number of books containing autographs made by or addressed to eminent literary and other personalities. Some of these are dedicated to the Library itself, or to past and present trustees or patrons. The entire collection is relatively substantial, amounting to several hundred items. Numerous contemporary writers from Belarus or abroad have dedicated their works to the library in this way. Certain volumes with pre-existing autographs have come to the library from other collections.

It is not possible to itemise here all the autographed books: only the most interesting and important dedications need be mentioned. These are dedications relating to men of letters and public figures now no longer alive.

The earliest autograph worth mentioning is the well-known manuscript note, not strictly a dedication: " *A to sia stalo nakladom Bohdana Onkovića, Radcy miesta Vileńskoho*". This autograph is to be found in the recently acquired codex of five Biblical books printed by Francis Skaryna (1517-1519) as an acknowledgement to the patronage of the Vilnia merchant Bahdan Onkaŭ; it was probably inserted by Skaryna himself.

Another interesting though perhaps less significant dedication is an autograph by the author of the first fundamental study of the renaissance scholar's work P. U. Vladimirov (1854-1902) in "Doktor Francisk Skorina. Jego perevody, pechatnyje izdanija i iazyk" (StPbg 1888). A manuscript dedication in Russian: " *Mnogouvazhajemomu Stanislavu L'vovichu Ptashickomu. Vladimirov. Na dobruju pamiat'*" is addressed to Ptashicki (1853-1933), a Russian-born Pole who achieved prominence as a researcher and expert on the history of letters of the Grand Duchy of Lithua-

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and will include the four skills of speaking, listening and writing. Classes are held from 18.30h. to 20.30h. each Monday (or by arrangement), and include access to the School's extensive collection of books, journals and newspapers. Michaelmas term runs from 27th September - 17th December 1999 *(Fees £120)*; Hilary from 10th January to 24th March (*Fees £120*) and Trinity term from 2nd May to 16th June 2000 (*Fees £55*).

Arrangements for accreditation by examination can be made with the teacher or Language Unit Manager after commencement of the course. Further information and application forms are obtainable from the School's Language Unit at Senate House, Malet Street, London WC1E 7HU (*Tel: 0171-862 8634* or *Fax: 0171-862 8633*).

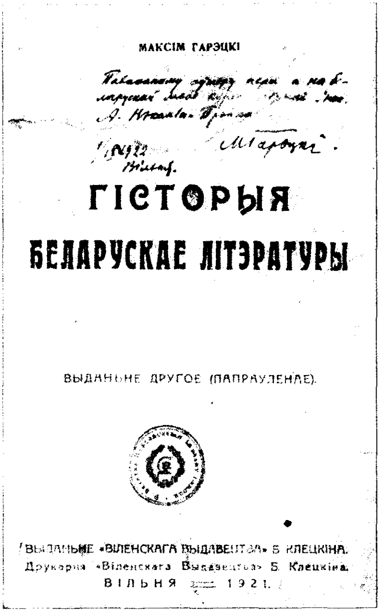
Other language courses are available at elementary level in Albanian, Bulgarian, Czech, Estonian, Finnish, Hungarian, Latvian, Lithuanian, Polish, Romanian, Russian, Serbo-Croat, Slovak, Slovene and Ukrainian.

Vocabulary *(Numerals)*

1. Адзін	першы	One	first
2. Два	другі	Two	second
3. Тры	трэці	Three	third
4. Чатыры	чацьверты	Four	fourth
5. Пяць	пяты	Five	fifth
6. Шэсьць	шосты	Six	sixth
7. Сем	сёмы	Seven	seventh
8. Восем	восьмы	Eight	eighth
9. Дзевяць	дзевяты	Nine	ninth
10. Дзесяць	дзесяты	Ten	tenth

(Days of the week)

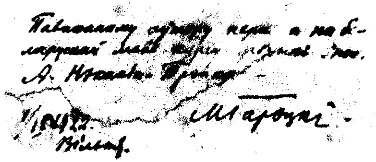
1. Панядзелак	Monday
2. Аўторак	Tuesday
3. Серада	Wednesday
4. Чацьвер	Thursday
5. Пятніца	Friday
6. Субота	Saturday
7. Нядзеля	Sunday


МАКСІМ ГАРЭЦКІ

ГІСТОРЫЯ БЕЛАРУСКАЕ ЛІТЭРАТУРЫ

ВЫДАНЬНЕ ДРУГОЕ (ПАПРАЎЛЕНАЕ).

ВЫДАНЬНЕ «ВІЛЕНСКАГА ВЫДАВЕЦТВА» Б. КЛЕЦКІНА.
Друкарня «Віленскага Выдавецтва» Б. Клецкіна.
ВІЛЬНЯ — 1921.



Autograph of M. Harecki

nia. Although the autograph is not dated, it can be safely assumed to have been written between 1888 and 1902; it is unfortunate that the earlier history of this publication is not known, but the work itself was a Library acquisition from a Munich bookshop in 1972.

A dedication by the prominent political and cultural figure of the Belarusian renaissance at the beginning of the XX c. Vacłaŭ Łastoŭski (1883-1938) appears in his fundamental bibliographical work "Historyja biełaruskaj (kryŭskaj) knihi" (Vilnia 1926) addressed to the Ukrainian politician Jan Vilejtym: *"Jaho dastojnaści Panu Janu Viliejtymu. Aŭtar. V. Łastoŭski . 16. V.2'"*. It is illustrative of the close relations existing between Belarusian and Ukrainian political exiles, as well as confirming the date of publication of the work itself, i.e. not later than mid-May 1926. The book was donated to the Library by a prominent Belarusian exile living in New York M.Pankoŭ; nothing is known of its earlier history.

In "Krajovy Słoŭnik Červienščyny" by M.Šatemik (Mn. 1929) the dedication is inscribed in Latin characters by one of the co-editors of the work, the well-known scholar Branisłaŭ Epimach-Sypiła (1859-1934) and addressed to his friend, a scion of the national movement in Western Belarus' Fr V. Sutovic . The brief dedication reads: " *Pavažanamu ks. Wiktaru Szutoviču ad Br. Epimacha-Šypiły Miensk 19. XII. 29.* " The work containing this autograph was a gift to the library in 1974 of the distinguished Belarusian writer in exile Jurka Vićbic (Jury Stukalič) of New York.

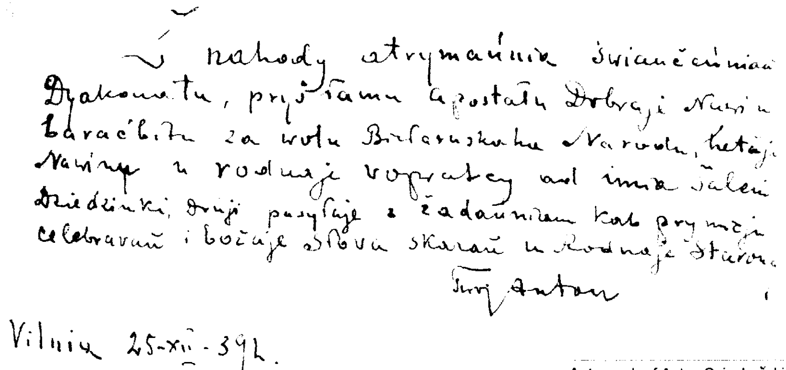
A book "Jan Barščeŭski : pieršy biełaruski piśmieńnik 19 stalećcia" published in Vilnia in 1911 by Ramuald Ziamkievič contains part of a dedication (unfortunately incomplete), the autograph having been damaged in the course of bookbinding. Only the last words are legible: "*...na dobruju pamiać. R. Ziamkievič. Varšava. 14. V. 1939*". This was possibly one of the last dedications made by the author, as a few years later the bibliophile and his collection perished in the turmoil of World War II. This particular item was preserved by the Association of Belarusians in France "Chaŭrus", whence it later passed to the London Library.

An interesting autograph appears in a scholarly publication on Belarusian liturgical texts from the 17th century by Bishop Česłaŭ Sipovič (1917-1981): "The Byzantine Slavonic Liturgy of St. John Chrysostome" (London 1978). Bishop Sipović , a prominent Churchman and public figure, Father General of the Marian Congregation, and founder of the Skaryna Library, presented a copy of his work to the collection with the dedication: " *Niastomnym pracaŭnikam na biełaruskaj nivie i darahim maim pryjacieliam achviaruje aŭtar. + Č.Sipovič Londan, 17 śniežnia, 1978.* " He is mentioned in a number of other dedications, either as donor or as donee.

One of the leading figures of the Belarusian political renaissance dedicated a number of works to Bishop Sipovič, but perhaps the most worthy of note was a copy of the "New Testament" (Vilnia 1939) translated into Belarusian by Fr Vincent Hadleŭski († 1942) and presented to Česłaŭ Sipovic on the occasion of his sacerdotal ordination by his friend Anton Ćviačkoŭski: " *Z nahody atrymańnia swiačeńniaŭ Dyakonatu, pryšłamu Apostału Dobraje Nawiny, baračbitu za movu Biełaruskaha Narodu, hetuju Nawinu u rodnaj vopratcy, ad imja Šaleni (?), Dziedzinki, Drui pasyłaje z žadańniam, kab prymicju celebravaŭ Božaje Słova skazaŭ u Rodnaje staroncy Tvoj (?) Anton. Vilnia 25.XII.39h* " Another translation of New Testament books published in Rome in 1954 -- "Swiataja Evanelia i Apostalskija Dziei" by Mgr Piotra Tatarynovič – came with the following autograph: " *Darahomu a. Česłavu Sipoviču u znak ščyraj pryjaźni i supracy - Pierakładčyk. Rym 29. VI. 1955* . Other autographs by Mgr Tatarynovič appear in his own translation of a book "Prypowieści" by Jerhanson (Vilnia 1927): " *Darahomu Stasiuku, majmu dobramu vučniu na pamiatku achwiaruju. Ks. P. Tatarynovič. Na cužynie. 1. V. 1927* ". It is addressed to a former member of Fr. Tatarynovič's parish, Stanisłaŭ Bubień, from whose collection it passed to the Skaryna Library. Tatarynovič for many years edited the Catholic magazine "Žnic", was director of the Belarusian Service of Radio Vatican and was the first to promote Gregorian plainchant with Belarusian texts. In a dedication to Fr Anton Padziava of translation from Thomas a Kempis: "Imitation of Christ" (Vilnia) by Dr Stanisłaŭ Hrynkievič, Mgr Tatarynovič wrote: " *Darahomu bratu ŭ Chryście A(n)tuku na pamiatku praviedzienych rekalekcyjaŭ dla Biełaruskaj Školy - achviaruje udziačny Ks. P. Tatarynovič 2. IV. 44.* " This tome, originally kept in Rome, was later presented by Bishop Sipovič to the Skaryna collection.

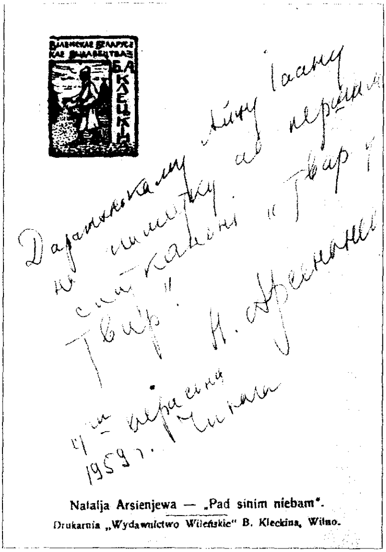
It is possible to trace through these dedications the inter-relationship between many notable churchmen. Fr V. Hadleŭski again appears as author of "Historyja Swiataja abo biblijnaja Novaha Zakonu" (Vilnia 1932), in which a dedication is addressed to the erudite Fr. Ja. Rešać: " *Darahomu ks. Jazepu Rešeciu ad aŭtara. 23. IX. 1933h.* " It may be supposed that this volume was given by Fr Rešać to Fr Ian Chrysostom Tarasevič, whom he met in Chicago, and who later became closely linked with the clergy at the Belarusian Catholic Mission in London.

A particularly significant autograph is to be found in the translation of "Novy Zapaviet" (Helsingfors 1931) by the distiguished Belarusian statesman and writer Anton Luckievic (For the historical background cf. G.Picarda: "The Heavenly Fire" Božym Słacham), presenting his work " *U biblijateku ajcoŭ Maryjanaŭ ad niedastojnaha pierakładčyka hetaje śviatoje knihi. Vilnia 29. V. 1936. Ant. Luckievič* ". From the Library of the Vilnia Seminary of the Marian Congregation this work found its way to the General house


Z nahody atrymańnia świačeńniaŭ Dyakonatu, pryśłamu Apostału Dobraji Nawinu baračbitu za movu Biełaruskaha Narodu, hetaju Nawinu u rodnaje vopratcy ad imia Šaleni Dziedzinki, Druji pasyłaje z žadańniam kab prymicju celebravaŭ i Božaje Słova skazaŭ u Rodnaje Staron Tvoj Anton

Vilnia 25-XII-39h.

Autograph of Anton Cviackoŭski



Autograph of Natallia Arsiennieva

in Rome, before being presented by the Father General to the London Library. A similar route was followed by the work : "Božae Słova" (L'viv -Vilnia 1938). A copy was presented to Fr Andrej Cikota with the dedication " *Darahomu Ajcu Andreju Cikota, Heneralu aa. Maryjanaŭ. Vilnia 19. V. 1938. Aŭtar ks. Ad. Stankievič*"

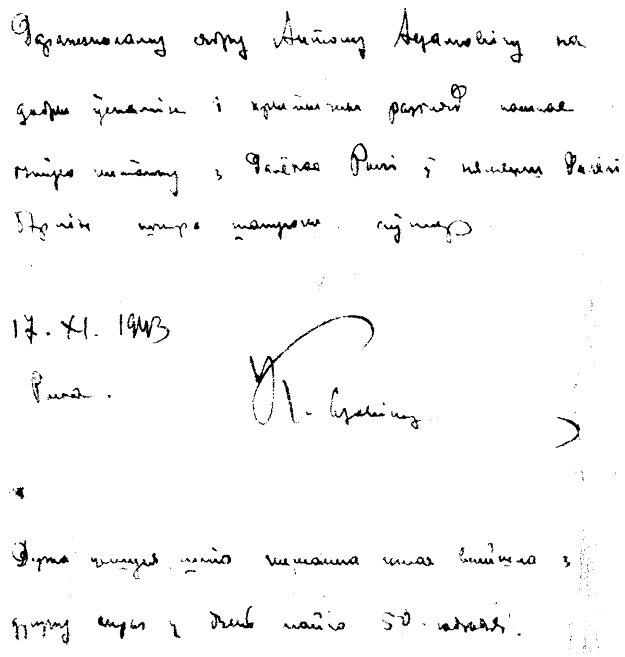
A particularly articulate Marian Father from Druja, Fr. Jazep Hermanovič (pen-name: *Vincuk Advažny*) presented a number of his own works to the Skaryna Library during the period of his residence in London. His dedications are roughly contemporaneous, and are broadly similar in content to that appearing in an autobiographical work "Kitaj - Sibir - Maskva".(Munich 1962). " *Biblijatecy Francǐška Skaryny ŭ Londanie na najlepšy ŭspamin. Aŭtar a. Jazep Hermanovič. 20.i. 1971*. His memoirs were subsequently translated into a number of foreign languages, and constitute a valuable source of information on the hardships of forced labour in the Siberian camps. A dedication addressed to Fr Hermanovič appears in the book "Šv. Jazafat, Archijap. Połacki: 1623-1963" (Chicago 1963); although undated it was probably made in 1974 or 1975; the book seems to have been brought to London from Chicago by Fr Hermanovic. Of greater moment perhaps is the autograph of Maxim Tank in his book "Pad Mačtaj" (Vilnia 1938): " *Pavažanamu Hramadzianinu i paetu Vincuku Advažnamu, za jaho indyjskaha słana, dziakujučy jakomu i hety zbornik pralez praz cenzuru. Aŭtar. Vilnia 2. III. 38h.*" Regrettably nothing is known of the intriguing circumstances surrounding this publication and its dedication, though the poet Tank was a known dissident, whose work was viewed askance by the Polish authorities. The Library has two other copies of this book containing autographs by Tank, as well as a copy of "Žuravinavy ćviet", with a dedication to P. Łastaŭka, a Belarusian activist in Western Bełaruś: " *Piatru Łastaŭcy z ślachoŭ litaraturnych i z spatkańniaŭ. Aŭtar. Varšava 1939*. This work, together with others from Łastaŭka's collection, were presented to the Library after his death by his heirs.

A copy of "Pad sinim niebam " (Vilnia 1927) by the talented poet Natalla Arseńnieva bears a dedication by the author to Fr Jan Chryzastom Tarasevič, a priest, working in the United States among Belarusian immigrants: " *Daražeńkamu ajcu Iaanu na pamiatku ab pieršym spatkańni 'tvar u tvar' N. Arsieńneva. 4-ha vieraśnia 1959. Čykaha*. Arsieńnieva dedicated another collection of her verse "Miž Bierahami" (Toronto 1979) to the London Library: " *Biełaruskaj Biblijatecy im. F. Skaryny. Aŭtar Natalla Arsieńneva. 20. 5. 79*. There are a number of dedications in the Libraries collection from other Belarusian poets in exile, in particular Aleś Zmahar and Krušyna.

Among the Library's holdings are a number of textbooks published by famous Belarusian personalities. Many of these scientific and educational works bear autographed dedications. Of particular interest is a dedication made by the writer, critic, folklorist, lexicographer and director (1928) of the Institute of Belarusian Culture, Maxim Harecki (1893-1939). During the formative years of the Belarusian Academic revival Harecki dedicated a copy of his own "Historyja Biełaruskaj Litaratury" (2nd. Edn. Vilnia 1921) to another Belarusian scientist: " *Pavažanamu aŭtary pieršaha na biełaruskaj movie kursu fizyki Inž. A. Nekanda - Trepka. M. Harecki 1/II-1922. Vilnia*". Little biographical

information is available about the donee or how this volume found its way to Western Europe.

There are a number of dedications to be found in the various editions of the textbook "Biełaruskaja Škoła. Pierśaja paśla lemantara kniha dla čytańnia" by Kastuś Jezavitaŭ, one of the leading lights of the Belarusian political and cultural revival. Leader of the first military units of the Belarusian National Republic, who drove Lander's bolsheviks out of Minsk (1918), he headed the Belarusian diplomatic Mission in Riga (1922), as well as organising Belarusian schools and publishing journals and music in Latvia. In a first edition of his "Bełaruskaja Skoła" (Riga 1926) there is an undated dedication to: "*Jaho miłaści Vysokapavažanamu Hramadzianinu K. Dekepsu, siabru Latvijskaha Dziaržaŭnaha Sojmu ad aŭtara K. Jezavitaŭ*". It seems likely that Jezavitaŭ owed some debt of gratitude to this Latvian politician Dekeps, possibly for his assistance in setting up schools, or generally supporting the Belarusian minority in Lathalia. The book was presented to the library by well-wishers in 1998. A copy of the Third edition (1943) bears a dedication made by the well-known political figure, literary critic and some time member of the *Uzvyšša* literary group Anton Adamovic. The personal tone of the dedication reflects the friendly relations existing between these two significant figures: "*Daražeńkamu siabru Antonu Adamoviču na dobry uspamin i krytyčny razhliad pasyłaje hetujučytanku z dalokaje Ryhi ŭ nia meńš daloki Berlin ščyra šanujučy aŭtar. 17.XI.1943 Ryha. K.Jezavitaŭ. Duža cieśusia, sto čytanka hetaja vyjšła z druku jakraz u dzień majho 50-hodździa*". It is thought that this book was presented to the library by Anton Adamović himself during one of his visits to the Belarusian Centre in London.



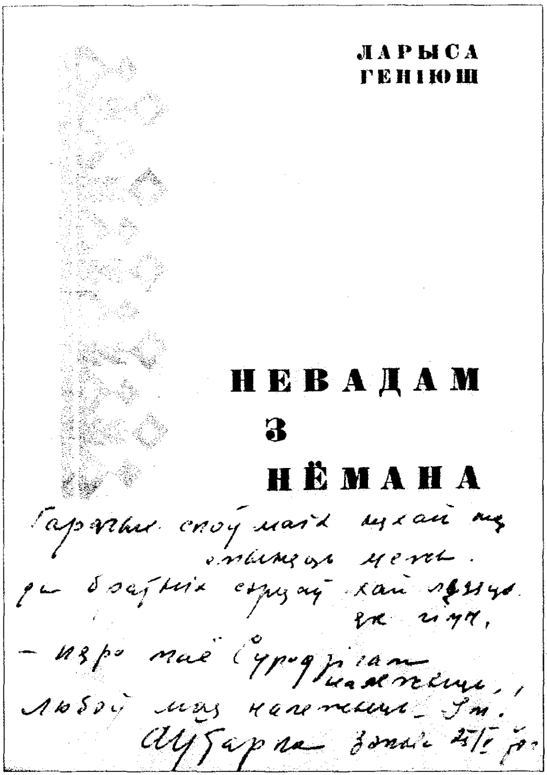
Autograph of
Kastuś Ezavitaŭ

Finally, reference must be made to the dedications made by well-known Belarusian writers on books published in Belarus' under the Soviets. Although since 1956, and more particularly over the last few years, the Skaryna Library has significantly expanded its collection of Soviet publications, there are for obvious reasons fewer autographs made by leading Belarusian writers. There are however a few very significant autographs worth noting. One comes from the pen of the great national poet Janka Kupała (1884-1942) as

a dedication of a copy of his poems published in Minsk (1940): " *Miłaj zasumavanaj Ženi s sonie̍čnym pryvietam. Janka Kupała. Maskva 16.I.41*". How or to whom this small volume was dedicated it has not been possible to establish. An earlier "Soviet" dedication from the pre-war period and addressed to the writer Piatruś Hlebka contained in a book of poems by Aleś Dudar "Sonie̍čnymi ścieżkami"(Mn. 1925): " *P. Hlebku. Hartujsia ŭ maładniakoŭskim kalektyvie, kab zrabicca vytrymanym, mocnym budaŭnikom biełaruskaj praletarskaj kultury. A. Dudaraŭ* ". The style and content of the autograph reflect the optimistitic spirit of the times and the idealistic attitude of young people - particularly those of the *Maładniak* literary circle, - still bright-eyed with revolutionary fervour, but soon to be crushed by Stalinist repression. This volume was remitted by its owner J. Vicbič to the library through Fr Alexander Nadson in 1974.

More succinct is the dedication by the author of the work "I za haroju pakłaniajusia" (Minsk 1982): " *Z luboŭju da Biełarusi - Baćkaŭščyny. F. Jankoŭski*". The author was at the time cautious in not mentioning the Skaryna Library of London as the donee, although it was included in a consignment of dictionaries sent to the librarian. Another autograph dating from the 1980s in the work "Nielha zabyć" was characteristically more open: " *Bibliatecy imia F. Skaryny - z pavahaju. Ŭł. Karatkievič. 14 studzienia 1983* ". Karatkievič of course goes down in history as the writer who strove to restore the true image of his country's past after many decades of fanciful distortion. It reached the London library just one year before the author's untimely death.
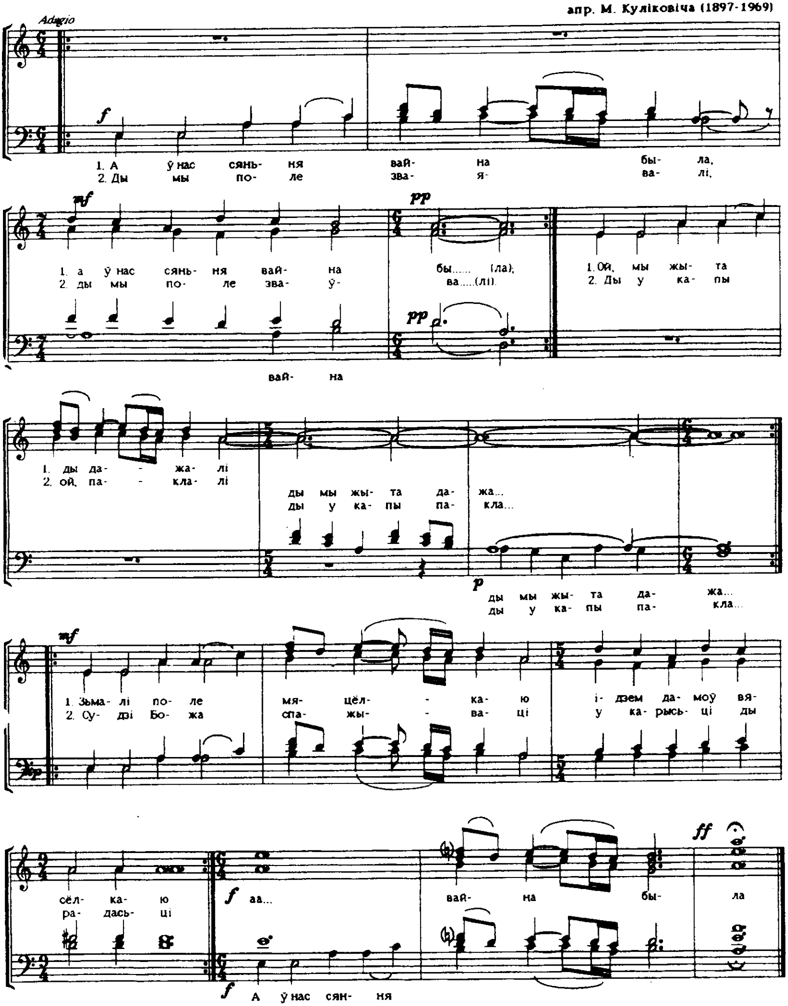
Among the collections of poems: "Nievadam z Niomana" by Larysa Henijuš has an author's poetical dedication to Belarusians in exile: *"Haračych słoŭ maich nia spyniać mežy, da bratnich sercaŭ chaj liaciać, iak himn — piaro maio Surodzičam naležyć, luboŭ maja naležyć' — Im. Aŭtarka Zelva 25/V 70h.* " and "Piesni z-za krataŭ" by Siarhiej Novik-Piajun bears a personal dedication to Fr. Alexander Nadson: " *Hłyboka-pavazhnamu a. Aleksandru Nadsanu na shchyry uspamin z hłybokaje pashanaj i udziachnaściu. Siarhiej Novik-Piajun. Miensk 13.IX.1993.*"



Autograph of Larysa Heniuš

А ў нас сяньня
Harvest Home

апр. М. Куліковіча (1897-1969)



1. А ў нас сяньня вайна была, (2x)
Ды мы поле зваявалі.(2x)

2. Ой мы жыта ды дажалі (2x)
Ды у капы ой, паклалі. (2x)

3. Зьмалі поле мяцелкаю, (2x)
Ідзем дамоў вясёлкаю. (2x)

4. Судзі Божа спажываці, (2x)
У карысьці ды радасьці. (2x)

А ў нас сяньня вайна была.

1. This day we waged war in the field, (*Repeat*)
The grain with scythes we made to yield. (*Repeat*)

2. The rye we laid low with sharp hooks, (*Repeat*)
Now all is safely bound in stooks. (*Repeat*)

3. The gleanings have been stored away, (*Repeat*)
Homeward we wend in glad array. (*Repeat*)

4. May God see that we put his gift, (*Repeat*)
To good account with joy and thrift. (*Repeat*)

This day we waged war in the field!

This day Christ was born of Mary
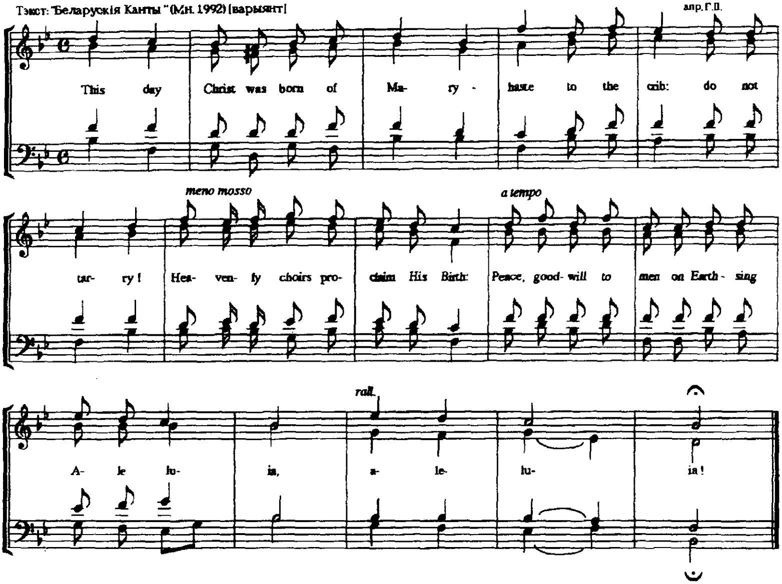
Христос зь Дзевы

No. 2

Belarusian Carol (18th c.)

Тэкст: "Беларускія Канты" (Мн. 1992) [варыянт]

апр. Г.П.



1. Хрыстос з Дзевы ся раждает,
Бог чалавекам ставает;
Анёлы удзячна сьпяваюць.
Спакой зямлі паведаюць:
Алілуя, алілуя !

2. Неба вясёла лікует,
Бог чалавекам абяцует
Утренна сонца прондкует,
Панна Хрысту услугует.
Алілуя, алілуя !

3. Услугует ў парадженью,
Нам прондкуэт узбавенью,
Звязда пасольства справует
С тромы царьмы путешествует,
Алілуя, алілуя !

4. Пастырые прыбягаюць,
Пакорна Яму кланяюць,
Яка Бога нябёснаму,
Тварцу сьвету шырокаму,
Алілуя, алілуя !

5. І мы то-ж яму кланяйма,
Скарбы прад нім паклядайма,
Яка малому дзіцяты,
Нябеснаму отрачаты.
Алілуя, алілуя !

1. This day Christ was born of Mary,
Haste to the crib, do not tarry !
Heavenly choirs proclaim His birth:
Peace, goodwill to men on Earth ! Sing
Alleluia, alleluia !

2. All heav'n with mankind rejoices
Angels now raise cheerful voices;
Christ our True Sun beams forth His light -
Mary wonders at the sight ! Sing
Alleluia, alleluia !

3. Hail to Him who brings salvation !
Tidings of joy to each nation;
Over His crib behold - A Star !
Three Kings come from lands afar - Sing
Alleluia, alleluia !

4. Shepherds bend their knee before Him,
Humbly in prayer they adore Him;
He, whose bright star shows us the way,
Lies there, sleeping in the hay - Sing
Alleluia, alleluia !

5. Hasten then to that poor stable,
Offer what gifts we are able
To Christ our Lord Emmanuel
Sent from heav'n with us to dwell. Sing
Alleluia, alleluia !

Memoirs

SCHOOLDAYS - "PAWS"

Larks rise to Akuninava

(Continued)

After the summer holidays the village children returned to school. For the youngest who were attending for the first time it was particularly hard. Leaving homes that were full of love, friendship and understanding, they arrived at school to face a strict teacher who spoke to them in a foreign language.

The teacher told the children they were going to learn a human language, implying that Belarusian was a language of animals. It was forbidden to speak our language in school, not only in lessons, but also at break times. Despite the natural propensity for children to chatter, and the notorious difficulties, which parents will recognise, of suppressing this urge, the children, because they could not speak Polish, kept quiet. Silence was maintained in fear of punishment.

The most common form of punishment involved the "errant" child kneeling down facing a corner of the classroom until given permission, at the teacher's whim, to rise again. Another regular punishmnet was a "paw". The teacher would order the child to stretch out his "paw", palm upwards and hold it, whilst hitting it hard

with the flat of a metal ruler. One stroke would sting, but a few strokes were very painful. The punishment was received for the slightest misconduct or mistake. The child called it "getting a paw". There was no respect between teacher and child; the teacher referred to them as little animals, and the children came to know him as the "man from hell".

One day the teacher overheard me talking to my brother Mikalaj in Belarusian. I got "a paw" and was then ordered into a corner, where I knelt feeling very resentful and angry towards the "man from hell".

The next day for homework we were told to memorise a poem called "Little Pole" (*Polak mały*), to recite the following day. When I read it, I grew even more resentful towards the teacher and the poem. "Little Pole" was a poem in the form of a series of questions and answers. It began:

Chtoz Ty jesciez ? Polak maly
Jaki znak twoj ? Orzel bialy.
Who are you? A little Pole.
What's your emblem? The White Eagle...

and went on to describe the pride and happiness of existence as a "Little Pole".

I could not do it. I could not recite this poem, saying how happy and proud I was to be a "Little Pole", regardless of the punishment I would inevitably receive. I decided to do my homework, but change the words and the language. Instead of the title "Little Pole", I wrote "Little local native".

Then word for word and line by line I altered the whole poem, keeping its original form so that it sounded similar on recitation, but changing the language and the words to express my feelings. After spending a lot of time correcting and brushing it up, I felt that my homework was ready.

The next day the teacher asked: "Who is going to recite 'Little Pole' first?" I volunteered. When I began: "Little local native", everyone looked up in surprise. As I continued with my revised version, the teacher looked pale at first; then his face turned red, and he began shouting at me to stop and be quiet. But I carried on, raising my voice, because I had the full attention of the whole class, and they had never heard anything like it before.

Chto ty jość ? A ja tutejšy...
Who are you ? A local native
What do you want ? A better life!
How much better ? With enough bread and salt.
And what else ? More land !
Where were you born ? In my village.
Where were you christened? Near the road.
With what were you christened?
With blood and sweat!
What do you aspire to be ?
Not classed as an animal!

I was near the back of the class and the teacher was at the front. At first he was immobilised with disbelief that I was reciting in Belarusian. As he realised what I was doing he shouted at me to stop, and started towards me. By the time he had reached me I was near the end of my poem. When he grabbed me I felt like a condemned man shouting his last words before execution. I managed to finish my poem in anticipation of punishment.

The teacher was extremely angry. He administered five sharp "paws", then led me to the corner of the classroom. He placed some buckwheat seeds on the floor, before ordering me to kneel down. Their sharp edges dug into my knees.

After this the teacher dismissed the class, telling the children to go home, but having reached a safe distance, my class-mates waited until at last I emerged. They greeted me like a hero, saying how brave I was and what a good job I had done. They wanted to learn and memorise the poem. Nobody wanted to learn "Little Pole", but nearly all of them memorised "Little local native", and soon recitations of it were heard throughout the village. Nearly everybody was talking about my poem and praising me for its delivery. In excitement I imagined that I had a talent for writing poetry, but I realised that to do things properly I needed an education.

A. BUTA (Bradford)

BELARUS FOOTBALL FEDERATION

(Premier League)

Previous editions of the Chronicle have been able to provide only fragmentary information about the organisation of the sport in Belaruś. Recently an official *Internet* site of the Belarusian Football Federation has published a League Table which is reproduced below as a guide for readers interested in following the progress of the sport in Belarus and abroad, together with information of the Federation's top scorers. (P=played; W=win; D=draw; L=lost; F.A.; Pts.=points).

Team	P.	W.	D.	L.	F-A	Pts.
1. "BATE" (Barysaŭ)	30	24	5	1	80-22	**77**
2. "Slavia" (Mazyr)	30	20	5	5	74-25	**65**
3. "F.C Homel" (Homel)	30	19	6	5	57-28	**63**
4. "Dniapro-Transmaš" (Mahiloŭ)	30	17	9	4	53-27	**60**
5. "Sachcior" (Salihorsk)	30	16	5	5	58-29	**59**
6. "Dynamo" (Minsk)	30	14	9	4	51-30	**51**
7. "Dynamo" (Bieraście)	30	14	4	12	59-52	**46**
8. "Belsyna" (Babrujsk)	30	13	6	11	52-42	**45**
9. "Nioman-Belcard (Hrodna)	30	10	6	13	36-43	**37**
10. "Torpedo-MAZ" (Minsk)	30	10	5	15	31-47	**35**
11. "Lakamatiŭ-96" (Viciebsk)	30	9	7	14	40-45	**34**
12. "Naftan-Devon" (Nava Polacak)	30	8	4	18	39-63	**28**
13. "FC Lida" (Lida)	30	7	4	19	27-64	**25**
14. "Torpedo-Kadino" (Mahiloŭ)	30	6	5	19	30-69	**24**
15. "Śvislač-Kroŭlia" (Asipovici)	30	4	4	22	24-74	**16**
16. "FC Maladzečna" (Maladzecna)	30	2	5	23	21-71	**11**

Top Scorers:

Stripejkis ("Slavia", Mazyr)	22
Kutuzaŭ ("BATE", Barysaŭ)	19
Alesčanka ("Lakamatiŭ-76", Viciebsk)	17
Vasiluk ("Dynamo", Bierascie)	17

FOOTBALL NEWS

"Lightning never strikes twice", - but it can if we talk about football.

England will be confronted by Germany, both in the qualifying stages of the World Cup, and in the knock-out stage of the Euro-2000 finals. Similarly Belaruś, who recently encountered Wales in the qualifying stage of Euro-2000 is scheduled to meet Wales againin the qualifying stage of the of the World Cup. Belaruś and Wales have met twice in the last two years. Both these encounters were won by the Welsh - 3:2 in Cardiff and 2:1 in Minsk. Belaruś with only 3 points, finished at the bottom of the First Division. And Wales, even though they won 9 points, also failed to qualify. Apart from Wales, Belaruś will have to play against it's neighbours Ukraine and Poland, as well as Armenia and Norway.

At a match played in the Championships for 1999 between "BATE" and "Dynamo-Minsk" on 30th October 1999, "BATE" emerged as victors with 2 goals to nil.

(P.S.)

TENNIS

Belarusian tennis star Natal'lia Z'vierava, was beaten in straight sets by the Russian player Anna Kournikova 4:6, 2:6 in the second round of the Australian Open Tournament in Melbourne.

(P. S.)

NEW PUBLICATIONS

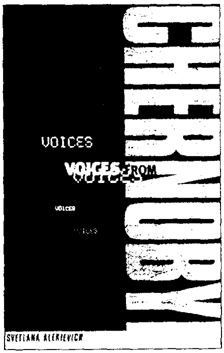
BELARUSIAN LITERATURE IN THE 1950s and 1960s. By Prof. A. B. McMillin. Bohlau Verlag Koeln Weimar Wien 1999 (315 pp.)

The publisher's review reports : "This book, the first of its kind, presents a turning point in the history of this fascinating but neglected Slav literature. Divided chronologically and by genre, and using extensive textual quotations with English translations, the study traces the development of Belarusian literature from the late Stalin years to the time of post-Thaw optimism, outlining the work of some hundred writers, and high-lighting in separate chapters the four outstanding figures of the period: Ivan Mielež, Vasil Bykaŭ, Ivan Ptašnikaŭ and Ŭładzimir Karatkievič. It is aimed at scholars and students of comparative Slav literature, and at all with an interest in a little known area of European culture."

Arnold McMillin is a Professor of Russian Literature at London University, and a Vice-President of the Anglo-Belarusian Society.

VOICES FROM CHERNOBYL by Svetlana Alexievich, publ. Aurum 1999.

Many books have appeared in various languages about the Charnobyl nuclear disaster, but few can match in horrific detail Alexievich's descriptions of the injuries and genetic deformities, as well as psychological traumas resulting from the explosion. Among the most severely injured were heroic fire-fighters: "I would lift his arm and the bone would rattle loose, the flesh had separated from it. He coughed up pieces of lung and liver. He was choking on his insides. I would wrap bandages round my hand and scoop it all out of his mouth". Even more tragic are the descriptions of the monstrous deformities caused by radiation to children in the womb. Faced with one birth, a doctor reported "It wasn't a baby but a living sack, closed on all sides without a single orifice...Only the eyes were open". The hazards of long-term pollution are also addressed, with particulars of macabre Tourist Agency excusions: "Visit the nuclear Mecca!" - all from the mouths of witnesses to the disaster. Sadly this is a book from which no conclusions can be drawn, save that there are apparently no bounds to human tolerance of suffering.



BEŁARUŚ - Illustrated Magazine

An English-language periodical, published jointly by the Belarusian State Committee of Printing and the Belarusian Society of Friendship and Cultural cooperation with Foreign Countries, first began to appear in November 1999, and follows generally the pattern of the Belarusian language journal of this name. Having the format of *Time* Magazine and containing numerous well-taken colour photographs, it is clearly a journal bent on finding a way to the Western reader, whilst maintaining a certain continuity with the past. This is reflected in a number of anachronisms - an unfortunate return to amateurish heraldic design, a retention of ghastly Soviet-Russian transliteration ("Buhenwalde" for Buchenwald, "Dahau" for Dachau and "Myre" for Mir) with a servile attachment to concepts of Viciebsk-born Marc Chagall as a "French" artist, of the potato as being the epitome of Belarusian cuisine (rather than game or crayfish), and of the superfluity of the need for stylistic editing ("the audience *percepts* (sic) every note" &c. &c.). At least Chagall and his fellow symbolist Seleschuk get a better showing than the hapless Savicki, an able artist mercilessly victimised in Soviet times by propaganda commissions ("Partisan Madonna" et al.). A certain sense of business acumen emerges from a neat little puff for BELOMO telescopic lenses and weaponry, which may or may not attract the attention of Shamil Basaev's Chechens. Peter Ustinov's 'Phoney folklore', with doe-eyed dancers in corn-dolly head-dresses, is still too much in evidence, but the back-page blondes swinging through a cornfield are inspiringly symbolic of 'Golden Belaruś'. An ultimate return to Belarusian authenticity will no doubt be a laborious process but officials, and even some Presidents, have been known to learn from experience.

This first number of *Belaruś*, with its articles on eminent patriotic emigres such as Sudziloŭski (1850-1930) in Hawaii, on the first rank ballet-master Elizarieŭ, on the tourist potential of a re-discovered Belaruś and her "Sacred things" (old Minsk is a winner here), appears to be setting out on the right path.

Articles received

THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH AND THE TSAR IN 19TH CENTURY BELARUŚ by Andrej Piattchits (*Orientalia Christiana Periodica* pp. 461-490) A well-documented survey of the progressive encroachments by Russian Synodal Orthodoxy on Greek and Roman Catholics as well as other religious minorities in an age of Imperial conformism, the effects of which are still being felt in present-day Belaruś..

БЫЎ. ЁСЬЦЬ. БУДУ... ГІСТОРЫЯ І КУЛЬТУРА ЯК ТЭМЫ ПАЭЗІІ ЎЛАДЗІМІРА КАРАТКЕВІЧА by Arnold McMillin (London) (*Тэрмапілы* - Białystok 2, 1999, pp. 104-113). The author surveys the writer's prose and verse, the important part which Belarusian history and culture played in his works, and Karatkievič's significance in the reorientation of literatary standards in the post Soviet era.

HOME THOUGHTS FROM ABROAD: THREE BELARUSIAN POETS IN EMIGRATION by A. McMillin (London) (Canadian American Slavic Studies, 33, Nos. 2-4 (1999) pp.253-263). A study of the works of Larysa Heniuš (1910-1983), Natalla Arsieńnieva (1903-1997) and Masiaj Siadnioŭ (b. 1915), each writing in a different historical and geographical context.

CHARITY GREETINGS CARDS

Greetings cards illustrated with Belarusian religious themes (Old ikons, modern drawings) with or without printed text panels (i.e. blank, for any occasion - Easter greetings, condolences, christenings, etc.) are obtainable at a price of £5 per pack of 12 from the Order of Orthodox Hospitallers (Belarusian Medical Help Projects), Chancery, 9 Conservatory Court, 83 Chevening Road, London SE19 3TD. *(Tel/Fax: 0181 653 3314)*

Belarus on the Internet: Let's explore more

The most important web-news for Belarusians resident in Britain and all persons interested in Belarus is the setting up of a web-site ***Belarusians in Britain and Ireland*** (http:// belarusians.cjb.net). It offers authoritative information about Belarusian organisations (Four of these - Anglo-Belarusian Society, Belarusian Library in London, Belarusian Catholic Mission and Belarus-Eire Society have separate pages) in these two countries, the activities of the Belarusian community, as well as book reviews, articles and useful links. The site according to its authors has been established for the whole Belarusian communy in the United Kingdom and the Republic of Ireland (Eire). All those interested in Belarus may use the site to canvass any views, and to promote any activities compatible with the ideals of a free, democratic Belarus and its cultural revival.

Radio Liberty (http:// www.rferf.org/bd/be) has a reliable site for obtaining **daily news** from and about Belarus in English as is also the non-government *Chapter 97* (http://wwwchapter97 .org). Further links to news services are to obtainable at the next address for *Belarus News* (http:// members.xoom.com/BelarusNews) It may also be helpful to check the web-site *Belarus Today* (http://www.belarustoday.com/index-e.html) and those of *Radio Racja* (http://www.racja.pl) a new Belarusian broadcasting station from Poland.

BelMusic (http://belmusic.hyparmart.net/) gives information about **musical events** in Belarus and **sells records** from a relatively substantial range. This site exists in the Belarusian, English and Russian languages.

A site *Belaruskaya palichka* (http:// palicka.cjb.net) is dedicated to **Belarusian literature**. It contains a good choice of poetry and prose, classical as well as modern. Everything is in the Belarusian language.

The first Belarusian **web-bookshop** ***Kraj*** contains some information in English (http:// www.kraj.org).

Site portals *Belarusian Guide* (http:// belarusguide.com/) and *Belarus Miscellany* (http://www.friends-partners.org/~kasaty/miscellany.html/) are **useful for exploring** the Belarusian internet. Also a web-register *Akavita* (a version has recently been created in English) provides more addresses of the most popular Belarusian sites.

Tales of Two cities

ABERDEEN - HOMEL

During September 1999 four delegates from Aberdeen City Council attended the Conference "Through twinning to sustainable Social and Ecological Development". During the visit a new twinning initiative "Teenage pregnancy" was set up between Aberdeen and Homiel. This project will be of interest and benefit to both cities. The main aims of the project are to provide for better preventative measures, and better social support for teenage parents. A Scottish group, the *Pam Dignan Dancers* took part in the International Festival of Choreographic Art "Sožski Karahod".

Within the framework of existing economic cooperation between the two cities, Ewan Daniel, Economic Development Department of Aberdeen City Council, was invited to visit Homel during October.

Also during this month the Belarusian youth folk music group "Skarb" took part in the Aberdeen Alternative Festival.

An International Exhibition of deaf childrens' art "The World in Which I Live", took place in Homiel during December 1999. Childrens' works from Aberdeen were exhibited, and two representatives from the Aberdeen School for the Deaf attended the event.

MINSK - NOTTINGHAM

"In November 1999, the Nottingham City Transport Band gave a charity concert in support of the Lord Mayor's Aid for Minsk Appeal, which provides drugs and equipment for children's cancer care hospitals in Nottingham's twin city. The City Transport Band is nearly 100 years old, and has performed at the highest levels. Internationally renowned cornet player Roger Webster, was the special guest soloist. In the presence of the Lord Mayor of Nottingham and guest of honour, Mr Vladimir Shchasny, Ambassador of Belaruś, the concert took place in the Albert Hall, Nottingham."

"Money raised by the former Lord Mayor of Nottingham, Councillor Joyce Donn, for the Lord Mayor's Aid for Minsk Appeal, is being used to buy an operating theatre light for the Oncology Hospital in Minsk. Thyroid surgeon at the hospital, Dr Kondratovič, is coordinating with Dr Sokal, Oncology specialist at the Nottingham City Hospital, to finalise the precise specifications for the light. This is a continuation of the medical links which have been formed between hospitals in Minsk and Nottingham."

(S. SOUTHWELL)

MENDIP - SVETLAHORSK

In July 1999 some 17 Scouts from Mendip spent ten days at the *Prafilaktika* Sanatorium in Svetlahorsk, at the invitation of local Scout Troops. The programme included hikes, camp fires and other familiar scouting activities, somewhat plagued however by vigourous mosquitos. There is to be a return visit of Belarusian scouts to the green hills of Somerset. In August a small group of teachers helped in the promotion of English language classes at 7 or 8 schools for some 100 pupils. In September Mendip was able to send to Svetlahorsk a disablement officer, a sex education officer and an expert in dry waste management (recycling) to attend a Conference "Through twinning to sustainable social and ecological development".

The delegates found that the modern well laid out Belarusian city of 76.000 inhabitants faced the usual problems associated in the United Kingdom with contemporary planning, such as drug-abuse and HIV. There was an absence of historic buildings in Svetlahorsk, but there are now over 10 churches (a new Catholic church, two Orthodox churches, as well as various evangelical chapels); and the visitors were particularly intrigued by the numerous attractive wood-frame cottages with gardens, which flourish in the suburbs. Contacts with the local art school were established by 3 Action Tract actors, who visited Svetlahorsk in the autumn.

In December the Mayor (Hon. Boleslaŭ Piestuk), and his deputy (Viktar Zvahin) visited Mendip for a working week, and in February 2000 Graham Jeffs took part in a visit of the region as a delegate of the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe. There he had a lengthy and useful meeting with three local Belarusian Judges. Plans for the Spring will include a Millenium visit during March of the Mayor of Homel to London, Mendip and Aberdeen, and discussions on further cultural exchanges.

(Graham JEFFS)

NOTES & QUERIES

45. M. RAVIENSKI IN ENGLAND (1950): It is not generally known that the composer of the popular hymn *Mahutny Boža* and a leading exponent of the resurgent school of Belarusian Church music Mikoła Ravienski visited the United Kingdom to attend the inauguration of the St.Saviour's parish in Bradford. These were the early days of his choral activity at the University of Leuven (Belgium), with many of his future choristers still toiling at the coal-face as European Voluntary Workers. Ravienski was able on this occasion to lead the singing and initiate the formation of the future Belarusian students male-voice choir in Belgium.

46. MARC CHAGALL (1887-1985), the great painter from Belaruś who during his life-time remained a somewhat enigmatic figure, has become the interesting subject of speculation as to his true national and religious appartenence. His relationship to the Cabala of the *Habad hassidim* of Belaruś, and through that tradition to Francis Skaryna and the Christian Cabalists of the Renaissance, still awaits elucidation. A possible influence of ancient Jewish mysticism on the Doctor of Polacak and the Master of Viciebsk was first hinted at by the Belarusian painter Saternik and there is a growing tendency to see in Chagall a marked leaning towards Christian messianism and trinitarianism, deriving from his upbringing in the tolerant world of Eastern Belaruś. Moreover Chagall had a particular connection with the British Isles, not merely on account of his various exhibitions, or his honorary degree from Glasgow University, but also through his British partner for seven years, Virginia Mc Nair (née Rider Haggard), and a great niece of the author of "She" and "King Solomon's mines"), who bore him a son David. His second wife Vava was a modiste from London, and a number of churches (Chichester Cathedral, Tudely parish church, Kent) and public buildings in this country boast frescoes and stained glass by Chagall.

47. ESSEX & MALADECNA: NEW LINKS. Geoff Wright, a representative of the Essex County Council Enterprise unit and Social Services and a member of the Anglo-Belarusian Society, has been engaged for some time in promoting social welfare links between Britain and Belaruś.

48. ENCYCLOPEDIA OF THE HISTORY OF BELARUŚ: Edited within the framework of an on-going series of the Petrus Broŭka Encyclopedias (Minsk), the new historical Encyclopedia is of interest to the Belarusian diaspora through its inclusion of articles on Belarusian *prominenti* established in the British Isles. Among those whose biographies have appeared to date are members of the Belarusian Catholic Mission: Bishop Česlaŭ SIPOVIČ (Liturgist and historian), V. ADVAŽNY (writer), L. HAROŠKA (Archimandrite and historian) A. NADSON (Archpriest, bibliophile and writer); officers and members of the Anglo-Belarusian Society J. DINGLEY (Lecturer and linguist), Prof. A. B. McMILLIN (Literary historian), G. PICARDA (musicologist). V. RICH (poet and journalist); J. ZAPRUDNIK (journalist and writer). Other titles will no doubt appear in due course, and there are plans for an index of Belarusians overseas who played an active role in the life of the diaspora.

49. BICENTENARY OF THE BIRTH OF ALEXANDER PUSHKIN (1799-1999): The writers of Belaruś have played their part in commemorating the life and work of a great Russian, and a great European poet. Pushkin is known to have visited Belaruś, in particular Mahiloŭ in 1820, and again in 1824. He displayed some interest in Belarusian history and folklore, and was the author of an article "The Collected works of Heorhij Kaniski, Archbishop of Belaruś" in "Sovremennik" (1836). Pushkin's name is also mentioned in the early 19th century Belarusian poem "Taras na Parnaśsie". A number of leading Belarusian poets published translations of his poems into Belarusian, in particular M. Bahdanovič ("Viazen"), J. Kupała ("Medny konnik"), Kołas ("Pol-

tava"), A. Kuliašoŭ ("Eugene Onegin"), P. Hlebka ("Boris Godunov") and A. Aleksandrovič ("Ruslan and Ludmilla"). Other translations of his works have been published by Baradulin, Broŭka, Haŭruk, Lužanin and Tank. Many composers of Belarusian origin have also set his works to music - M. Hlinka ("Ruslan and Ludmilla"), Pukst, Kulikovič-Ščahloŭ, Turankoŭ, Bahatyroŭ and Siemianiak (various lyrics). A number of seemingly unrelated Belarusian families bear the name 'Pushkin', including a well-known artist and Belarusian patriot in Minsk, and one settled in England in the early 20th century.

50. A RUŠČYĆ PAINTING IN LONDON. The painter Ferdinand Ruščyć (1870-1936), born in the Valožyn district of Belaruś, commonly described himself as a 'tutejšy' (local). He received his artistic training first in Minsk under K. Jarmalajeŭ, and later in St-Petersburg with Šyškin. A number of his works, influenced by "Art nouveau" are to be found exhibited in The Belarusian National Art Museum in Minsk. A friend of V. Lastoŭski, he is thought to have produced occasional designs for Belarusian publications and vignettes. In an Exhibition now on display at the Royal Academy of Arts in London entitled "1900 - Art at the Crossroads", paintings by 180 artists from 26 countries will remain on display until 3rd July 2000. *Naša Niva (No. 6 [163])* reports that: "Belarusian art is represented at the Exhibition by a canvas "The Land" painted by Ruščyć in 1898. The original is kept in the National Museum in Warsaw, but a copy is also on display in the Minsk Jakub Kolas Museum. The subject of this epic painting represents autumn ploughing on his father's estate at Bahdanaŭ, Valožyn district." It despicts a peasant driving a team of oxen, a theme popularly reproduced in Belarusian calendars and even postage stamps of the period. The Ruščyć canvas appears under his name in the *Encyclopedia of the Literature and Art of Belaruś* (Vol 4. p. 545). Scenes of rural life were also popular with Belarusian avant-garde artists from this period (cf. M. Chagall: "I and the village" [1910]).

Belarusian Directory

NOTE:

Information subject to variation and verification. The *Society* and *Bulletin* can accept no liability for any inaccuracies.

Aberdeen-Homel (Gomel) Trust: Department of Legal and Corporate Services, Town House, Broad Street Aberdeen AB10 1AQ. *Chairman:* Dr Murchison *Tel. 01224-522516*

Anglo-Belarusian Society (1954). *Chairman*: Rowan Carstairs; *Secretary*: Paval Saŭcoŭ. 39 Holden Road, London N12 8HS; *Treasurer*: J. Dziejko *Tel. 0181-445-5358. E-mail: belarusians_in_britain@yahoo.com. Web-pages:* http://home.clara.co.uk/skaryna/abs/.

Association of Belarusians in Great Britain - ZBVB. (establ. 1946).

LONDON: 52 Penn Road, London N7. *Chairman*: Helen Michaluk; *Secretary*: Dr. I. Hurlo *Tel. 0171-607-1455. E-mail: belarusians_in_britain@yahoo.com*

BRADFORD: 9 Walmer Villas (Enquiries as above)

COVENTRY: Representative (Enquiries as above)

MANCHESTER: 74 Bellott Street (Enquiries as above)

Belarusian Charitable Trust : 52a. Penn Road, London N7 9RE. *Enquiries: 0171-607-1455.*

Belarusian Chronicle (*see*: Anglo-Belarusian Society)

Belarusian Greek-Catholic Church of SS Peter and Paul *Rector*: Very Revd. Archpriest Alexander Nadson; *Assistant*: Revd. K. Maskalik, Marian House, Holden Avenue, London N12 8HY. *Telefax 0181-445-1938/5358.* E-E-mail: belmission@catholic.org. Web-site: http://www.byzantines.net/belmission/.

Belarusian Heraldry & Genealogical Society : 39 Holden Road, London N12 8HS. *Convener*: G. de Picarda.

Belarus-Eire Society: Chairman - Maria Mic-

kievič. 13a Surhanava, Minsk *Fax: (0172) 645124*. Web-pages: http://home.clara.co.uk/skaryna/bes/.

Belarusian Mission Trust: Marian House, Holden Avenue, London N.12 8HY. *Chairman* Mgr. A. Nadson. *Tel: 0181 445-5358.*

Belarusian Orthodox Charitable Trust *Secretary*: Maria Halubinka, 5 Cherry Avenue, Langley (Berks.) SL3 7BT *Tel. 01753-524689.*

Belarusian Orthodox Church (Autocephalic - BAPC) MANCHESTER - Our Lady of Žyrovičy Parish *Priest*: Very Revd. Archpriest Jan Ababurka, 22 Daresbury Road, Manchester *Tel. 0161-740-8230.*

BLAENAU FFESTINIOG - The Orthodox Church of the Protection of Our Lady (Welsh Mission), 11 Heol Manod, Blaenau Ffestiniog LL41 4DE. *Priest* Ihumien Fr Deiniol. *Tel. 01766831272.*

BRADFORD - St. Saviours Parish Church (within St. Chads), now at 9 Walmer Villas. *Enquiries 0161-740-8230.*

NOTTINGHAM - (St. Catherine's Church) *Enquiries as above.*

WOLVERHAMPTON. *Enquiries as above.*

Belarusian Orthodox Church (Ecumenical Patriarchate)

LONDON - St. Euphrosyne of Polacak (Holy Innocents), Paddenswick Rd. London W13 0UB. *Tel. 0172 783 091. Parish warden*: M. Zaloha, 13 Britanny Point, Black Prince Road, London SE13 6WY.

MANCHESTER - St. Nicholas Orthodox Church of Belaruś, 2 Hall Moss Road, Blackley, Manchester M9 7AT. *Priest*: Very Revd. Michal Iskrycki, *Tel. 0161 368 8694*. Assistant: Revd. Christopher Rogers.

STOCKPORT - St. Timothy the Apostle, Stockport Cemetry Chapel, Buxton Road, Stockport, Cheshire. *Priest*: Very Revd. Archimandrite Kiryl Jenner, Mynachdy Sant Elias, New Mills, Newtown, Powys SY16 3NQ. *Tel. 01686-650 424.*

STOKE-ON-TRENT - Holy Trinity Church (Sneyd), Hamil Rd. Burslam *Priest*: Very Revd. Alexander Sidarovič, 38 Little Moss, Scholar Green, Stoke (Staffs.) ST7 3BP *Tel. 0172 783 091.*

Belavia (Belarusian Airlines), 7 Buckingham Gate, London SW1E 6JP. *Tel: 0171 393-1202; Fax: 0171 393-1203* (Flights leaving Gatwick at 1400h arriving Minsk 1905h. on Wednesdays, Fridays and Sundays; leaving Minsk 1155h, arriving Gatwick 1300h. on Wednesdays, Fridays and Sundays).

Britain-Belarus Society: PO Box 452, Guildford (Surrey) GU5 YP. *Chairman:* Chris Moore.

British Council : Headquarters - 10 Spring Gardens, London SW1 *Tel. 0171 930-8466; Fax. 0171 839-6347.*

British East-West Centre: 14 Grosvenor Place, London SW1 X 78W *Tel. 0171 823 1990* [*Library*: Stephen Eke].

British Library, Department of Slavistics: *Tel. 0171 412-7667.*

Charnobyl Radiation Relief Committee: Marian House, Holden Avenue London N12 8HY *Tel. 0181 445 1938*

Embassy and Consulate General of Belaruś: 6, Kensington Court, London W8. (*Ambassador*: H. E. Uł. Scasny; *Consul General* Ul. Matusievic) *Tel. 0171 937-3288; Fax : 0171 361-0005.*

Foreign and Commonwealth Office, King Charles Street, London SW1. Department for Belaruś - *Desk Officer*: Denise Holland. *Tel. 0171 270-3831*

Francis Skaryna Belarusian Library and Museum : 37 Holden Road, London N12 8HS *Chairman-Librarian*: Mgr. A. Nadson; *Secretary* J. Dingley. *Tel. 0181-445-5358.* E-mail: belarusianlibraryinlondon@yahoo.com. Web-pages: http://welcome.to/skaryna.

Friends of Homel: The Town House, Aberdeen AB10 1AQ. *Chairman*: Councillor Nanette Milne. *Tel. 01224-698855*

International Association for Belarusian Studies - (*London Representation*) - James Dingley.

Legal Services (Belaruś): *Enquiries - Tel. 0171 607-1455.*

Lithuanian Library: 55 Ringmar Avenue, London SW6. *Tel: 0171 7363093*

London University - School of Slavonic and

East European Studies, (*Belarusian Language Unit*, J. Dingley), Senate House, Malet Street, London WC1E 7HU (*Tel: 0171-862 8634* or *Fax: 0171-862 8633*).

Mendip District - Svetlahorsk: Mendip District Council House, Cannards Grave Road, Shepton Mallet (Somerset) *Chief Executive* Graham Jeffs *Tel. 01749341206; Fax. 01749346392.*

Minsk Jewry Group: c/o 69 Belmont Lane, Stanmore (Middx) HA7 2QA

Nottingham-Minsk. City of Nottingham Council, Office of the Chief Executive, The Guildhall, Nottingham NG1 4BT. *Twinning and Projects Officer.* Sarah Southwell. *Tel. 0115 9154366; Fax 0115 9154580*

Order of Orthodox Hospitallers *(Medical Help for Belaruś)* *c/o*Michael Brett-Crowther, 9 Conservatory Court, 83 Chevening Road, London SE19 3TD *Tel. 0181 653-3314.*

Oxford Placement of Russicists: *Belarusian desk*- Jennifer Baynes, 109 Woodstock Road, Oxford.

Polish Library and Cultural Centre (POSK) 240 Kings Street, London W6 0RF (Library, Restaurant) [*Librarian*: Dr Jagodzinski] *Tel: 0181 746-0474 ; Fax: 0181 746-3798.*

Rada B.N.R. *(Council of the Belarusian National Republic)* U.K. Representation *: Tel. 0181 607 1455.*

Spiro Institute, *(Belarusian Jewish Studies)* Kidderpore Av., London NW3.

S.C.R. Soviet Studies, *(Library)* 240 Brixton Road, London SW9 6AB [*Librarian*: Jean Turner] *Tel. 0171 274-2282*

St. Cyril's House, (*Belarusian Students' Residence*), 41 Holden Road, London N12 8HS *Tel. 0181 446-9162.*

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Belaruś-Great Britain Society, Zacharava 28, 220034 Minsk. *Tel: (00375 172) 332781.*

Belaruś-Ireland *(Eire)* **Society**, Zacharava 28, 220034 Minsk. *Tel: (00375 172) 332781.*

Belintourist: prasp. Mašerava (Parkava) 19, 220004 Minsk. *Tel: (00375 172) 269840.*

British Council: Zacharava 21, 220662 Minsk *Cultural Attaché*: Mme Natalia Demčenka. *Tel. (00375 172) 367953 Fax. 364047.*

British Council for Jews in Eastern Europe:

Embassy of the United Kingdom in Belaruś: Karla Marxa 37 (Padhornaja), 220030 Minsk. *HM Ambassador*: H.E. A. Kelly : *Tel. (00375 172) 105920 Fax. 292306*

International Association for Belarusian Studies: Revalucyjnaja 15, 220050 Minsk. *Director*: Prof. A. Maldzis *Telefax: (00375 172) 209350.*

Ministries: Ministry of Culture: Savieckaja 9, 220010 Minsk. *Tel. (00375 172) 296890 ;* Ministry of Foreign Affairs: Lenina 9, (Franciškanskaja) 220030 Minsk. *Tel: 272922*

National Gallery of Art: Lenina (Franciškanskaja) 20, 220030 Minsk. *Tel. (00375 172) 274562.*

National Library of the Republic of Belaruś: Čyrvonaarmiejskaja 9 (Daminikanskaja), 220030 Minsk. *Tel. (00375 172) 275463.*

Religious Communities: BELARUSIAN EPARCHY OF THE ORTHODOX CHURCH - Vyzvalennia 10, 220004 Minsk *Tel. (00375 172) 234495.*

ROMAN CATHOLIC Church of SS. Simeon & Helena, Savieckaja 15, 220050 Minsk. *Tel. (00375 172) 204415.*

GREEK CATHOLIC (Deanery): Dvornikava 63, 224014 Brest. Tel/Fax (00375 162) 247482.

EVANGELICAL BAPTIST UNION : Puciapravodny 4, per. 2 *Tel. (00375 172) 539267.*

JEWISH COMMUNITY: Synagogue, Krapotkina 22, 220002 Minsk. *Tel. (00375 172) 342274.*

MUSLIM COMMUNITY: Zaslaŭskaja 11. I. 113, 220004 Minsk.

Society for Friendship and Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries, Zacharava 28, 220034 Minsk. *Tel: (00375 172) 332781*

State University of Minsk: prasp. F. Skaryny 4, 220050 Minsk. *Enquiries Tel: (00375 5172) 265940.*